Printed for the use of the Foreign Office. January 1882.

CONFIDENTIAL.

F.O.
424

(4576.)

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

DEMARCATION

OF THE

RUSSO-TURKISH FRONTIER IN ASIA.

108

1880-81.

LIST OF PAPERS.

No.					Page
1.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 20)	May	14, 1880	1
2.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 23)	May	18, ——	2
3.	Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin	(No. 204)	May	24, ——	3
4.	Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin	(No. 206)	May	25, ——	3
5.	Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin	(No. 208)	May	26, ——	3
6.	Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin	(No. 229)	May	31, ——	4
7.	Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin	(No. 234)	June	2, ——	4
8.	Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley	(No. 14)	June	2, ——	4
9.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 26)	May	28, ——	4
10.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 27)	May	28, ——	6
11.	Sir A. Kemball to Mr. Currie	..	June	3, ——	7
12.	Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley	(No. 16)	June	3, ——	7
13.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 28)	June	1, ——	7
14.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 29)	June	1, ——	8
15.	Sir A. H. Layard to Earl Granville. Three Inclosures.	(No. 559)	June	1, ——	9
16.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No 31)	June	8, ——	10
17.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 32)	June	11, ——	11
18.	Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley	(No. 18)	June	17, ——	12
19.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville. Three Inclosures.	(No. 33)	June	15, ——	12
20.	The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville	(No. 263)	June	16, ——	16
21.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 34)	June	15, ——	16
22.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 35)	June	16, ——	17
23.	Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley	(No. 19)	June	30, ——	17
24.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 36)	July	10, ——	17
25.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 37)	July	27, ——	18
26.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 38)	July	29, ——	18
27.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 39)	August	11, ——	19
28.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville. Six Inclosures.	(No. 40)	August	31, ——	21
29.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville. One Inclosure.	(No. 41)	August	31, ——	34
30.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 42)	..	..	35
31.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	(No. 43)	August	31, ——	35
32.	Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley	(No. 23)	September	17, ——	35
33.	Earl Granville to Mr. Goschen	(No. 510)	September	24, ——	36
34.	Earl Granville to Mr. Plunkett	(No. 481)	September	24, ——	36
35.	Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley	(No. 24)	September	24, ——	36
36.	Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville	..	September	27, ——	36
37.	Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville. One Inclosure.	(No. 439)	October	4, ——	37
38.	Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley	..	October	11, ——	37
39.	Sir L. Simmons to Lord Tenterden	..	October	18, ——	38
40.	Mr. Goschen to Earl Granville	(No. 537)	November	6, ——	38
41.	Earl Granville to Mr. Plunkett	(No. 603)	November	26, ——	38
42.	Earl Granville to Mr. Plunkett	(No. 616)	December	8, ——	39
43.	Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville	(No. 589)	December	6, ——	39
44.	Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville	(No. 607. Confidential)	December	15, ——	39
45.	Lord Tenterden to Major-General Sir E. Hamley	..	December	29, ——	40
46.	Mr. St. John to Earl Granville	(No. 689)	December	22, ——	40
47.	Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin	(No. 2)	January	5, 1881	41
48.	The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville. One Inclosure.	(No. 10)	January	12, ——	41
49.	The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville. One Inclosure.	(No. 41)	January	31, ——	42
50.	The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville. One Inclosure.	(No. 43)	January	31, ——	42
51.	Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin	(No. 72)	February	17, ——	43
52.	Earl Granville to Mr. Goschen	(No. 17)	February	21, ——	43
53.	The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville	(No. 80)	March	], ——	44
54.	Mr. Goschen to Earl Granville. One Inclosure.	(No. 303)	April	20, ——	44
55.	Mr. Goschen to Earl Granville	(No. 408)	May	24, ——	45
56.	The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville	(No. 616)	July	20, ——	45
57.	The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville	(No. 1104)	December	13, ——	45
58.	The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville	(No. 1124 A)	December	19, ——	45

Printed for the use of the Foreign Office. February 1881.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Demarcation of the Frontier of Turkey in Asia.

No. 1.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received May 27.)

(No. 20.)

Constantinople, May 14, 1880.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your despatch No. 10 of the 7th May (No. 9 is probably in the Foreign Office bag which failed to arrive yesterday), inclosing copy of Lord Dufferin's No. 192 of the 3rd May.

I am glad to suppose that his statement of the views of the Russian Government at the date of his despatch, namely, that General Zelenoi continued to desire a reunion of the Turco-Persian Commission at Tiflis, and to talk of the necessity of visiting Khotour for the settlement of the boundary there, and that these expeditions were to precede the assembly of the Tripartite Commission in Armenia, is descriptive of a past stage of the discussion, because your telegram No. 134 of the 10th May gives me much better hopes of proceeding speedily with the latter business. Otherwise I would beg your Lordship to consider what General Zelenoi's proposal signifies, namely, a journey to Tiflis, an examination of I know not what maps and documents there, and then a journey to the Persian frontier and back, and all this preliminary to the assembly of the Tripartite Commission. My proposal to begin with the Khotour question was based on the belief that it could be quickly settled here, and would occupy a necessary interval of delay; had I expected to go to Khotour, I should, of course, have desired to arrange to proceed thither from the extremity of the Turco-Russian frontier in Armenia, where it touches the Persian, after finishing the delimitation of the former, and having thus got so far on the way to Khotour.

As General Zelenoi still believes in the necessity of visiting Khotour, and as I have received no later news of the views of the Russian Government about that part of the business, I would ask that he should be invited to do what I have so often done myself with regard to it, namely, give his reasons for the course he suggests. I can really imagine none, nor do I know in the least what we should do at Khotour when we got there.

I have the maps of the Khotour district made by the topographers of the Anglo-Russian Commission; on them the frontier-line is laid down, which was the result of a thorough examination of documents and evidence by General Zelenoi and Sir Arnold Kemball; that line passes along a lofty range forming the best natural frontier, and inclosing far more territory round Khotour than it can be possible to inhabit, and consequently giving all that Persia claims. What can I, either by examining documents or visiting the locality, hope to add to this? It is the conviction that I cannot that has induced me to insist that all I have to do in the matter is to give to that work the formal completeness which, had it been given by Sir Arnold Kemball in 1875, would have left nothing further to be done in the matter at the Congress of Berlin. I trust, therefore, that your Lordship will by no means consent to this tedious and expensive expedition till General Zelenoi shall have first satisfied me that it is necessary.

General Stebnitzky is expected here to-day; I shall see Chehab Bey this morning:

and I hope in a very few days to take the official part in their Conference promised in your telegram No. 134 of the 10th May, when, if the Russian Commissioner still holds out for his point, I shall not refuse to consider it, but desire, before deciding, that I shall examine the locality, and to that end press for the immediate departure of the Commission.

What I should hope the Russian Government will finally do about Khotour will be merely to instruct General Zelenoi to confine himself to completing with me his former work.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 2.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received May 24.)

(No. 23.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, May 18, 1880.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that General Stebnitzky arrived here on Friday the 14th, that I had interviews with him on Saturday and Sunday, and that a séance was held at the Seraskeriate yesterday (Monday), at which he and the Turkish Commissioner, after agreeing to a point on the parallel west of Karaourgan for the end of the first section of the Russo-Turkish frontier in Asia, indicated the same to me.

It being the point we have always contended for, and which fully complies with the conditions of the Treaty, I at once accepted it. It was formally marked on a map, which was signed by the Russian and Turkish Commissioners and delivered to me, and a Protocol was also duly signed, a copy of which goes to you by the messenger to-day. I shall retain the map till the close of the business.

I should be glad if the Russian Government could be made aware how conciliatory I felt the step to be, how cordial was the good-will evinced by General Stebnitzky, and how gratified I shall be to reciprocate it throughout the business.

So far as I am concerned, I might now set out for the frontier. But Consul Biliotti telegraphed to me some days ago that some bridges on the main road from Trebizond had been carried away by a flood, and the road itself rendered almost impassable. All accounts agree that the winter there has been of very exceptional severity, the depth of snow extraordinary, and the approach of the mild season very much retarded.

I have requested him to make inquiries by telegraph and from travellers, and to keep me informed of the state of the roads. I should have been more vexed at this hindrance if I were aware of the movements of my Russian colleague. But I am absolutely without information as to when and where he may have been instructed to meet me. Also, although I came here five weeks ago at the urgent request of the Turkish Government, I have not yet been informed who my Turkish colleague is to be, and am doubtful if any has been appointed. After much importunity I prevailed on Sawas Pasha to send an officer to me whom, a fortnight before, he had led me to believe was to be the Commissioner in question; but I found him, at the interview, ignorant of why he had been desired to call on me, and of my business here, while nothing had been said to him of becoming a Commissioner, which he considered his other duties would not permit him to be.

I have again applied to Sawas, and requested Sir H. Layard to press the application, that steps may be taken to have an officer not only appointed, but ready to start forthwith.

It is almost a necessity that I should take him along with me, as if I went without him it would be very doubtful when he might join me.

However, the main difficulty being at an end, I trust the business will not, in any case, take long to finish.

I suggested to your Lordship that General Stebnitzky might, for the sake of despatch, be empowered to finish the Kotour question with me. I gave him yesterday my view of the mode of settling it, to which he fully assented; and on my asking him whether he would be willing to take part in it, if so instructed, he agreed at once.

He is to see the maps to-day, when, if he is still favourable, I will telegraph accordingly. I find on inspecting the map on which the Persian Government defined its claim to the territory of Kotour, that the line on it corresponds exactly with the Kemball-Zelinoi line. There can be no doubt, therefore, that it will be entitled to be accepted by all parties, and that it could not possibly be improved on.

I am getting a copy made of that part of the Anglo-Russian "identic" map containing the territory of Kotour.

I shall propose to General Stebnitzky that we should lay down on it the aforesaid line, duly attest it, and effect its delivery to the Turkish Government as the complete work, so far as regards Kotour, of the Anglo-Russian Commission, when our share of the business will be at an end. This, if due instructions are sent from St. Petersburgh, may, I hope, be done by the end of this week.

But if there is any difficulty or much delay in so settling the matter I shall take the necessary maps and papers to the frontier, and ask that General Zelinoi be empowered to finish it.

Since writing the above I have had another interview with General Stebnitzky, in which he confirmed his agreement of yesterday as to the settlement of the Kotour question after seeing the maps.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 3.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 204.)
My Lord, *Foreign Office, May 24, 1880.*

I HAVE received your telegram No. 71 and I have to request your Excellency to express to M. Giers the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have received the intelligence of the settlement of the point west of Karaourgan, to which the first section of the Russo-Turkish frontier is to extend. Her Majesty's Government trust that the other matters relating to these frontier questions may now be speedily proceeded with.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 4.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 206.)
My Lord, *Foreign Office, May 25, 1880.*

GENERAL HAMLEY has informed me that the Russian Commissioner, General Stebnitzky, has received instructions to complete the demarcation of Khotour boundary, and I have to request your Excellency to express to the Russian Government the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have received this intelligence.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 5.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 208.)
My Lord, *Foreign Office, May 26, 1880.*

HER Majesty's Government approve your Excellency's proceeding with regard to the negotiations respecting the work of the Asiatic Frontier Commission, as well as the language employed by your Excellency in your conversations with General Miliutine and M. de Giers, as reported in your despatch No. 199 of the 5th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

No. 6.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 229.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1880.

GENERAL HAMLEY and Colonel Stebnitzky are of opinion that in order to bring about a settlement of the Turco-Persian boundary it is necessary that General Zelenoi should join them at Constantinople, and Her Majesty's Government hope that the Russian Government will authorize him to proceed thither without delay.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 7.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

(No. 234.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 2, 1880.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch from Major-General Sir E. Hamley,* reporting that the point west of Karaourgan for the end of the first section of the Russo-Turkish frontier in Asia has been satisfactorily settled.

Sir E. Hamley also reports that, owing to the conciliatory attitude of General Strebnitzky, he is likely to come to an agreement with him respecting the Khotour boundary, and he suggests that instructions should be given by the Russian Government to enable General Strebnitzky to settle this question.

I should wish your Excellency to speak to M. de Giers in the sense of General Hamley's suggestions, and you should express the gratification of Her Majesty's Government at the conciliatory attitude of General Strebnitzky, an attitude which General Hamley will do his best to reciprocate.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 8.

Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley.

(No. 14.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 2, 1880.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 23 of the 18th ultimo, reporting that the point west of Karaourgan, to which the first section of the Russo-Turkish frontier is to extend, has been satisfactorily settled, and that, owing to the conciliatory attitude of the Russian Commissioner, General Strebnitzky, you are likely to come to an agreement with him respecting the Khotour boundary.

I have requested Her Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburgh to speak to M. de Giers in the sense of the suggestions you made with regard to the instructions which should be given to General Strebnitzky to enable him to settle the Khotour question.

Your own proceedings, as reported in your above-mentioned despatch, are approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 9.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(*Received June* 3.)

(No. 26.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, May 28, 1880.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that General Stebnitzky, having examined the maps and received the instructions of his Government, was prepared to finish the Khotour question with me, and the map and Protocol were ready for signature when a quite unexpected circumstance came to light, which is essential to the business, and which none but a member of the former Mixed Commission can explain.

What I had said of the identity of the line showing the Persian claim with the Commissioners' claim, as regards Khotour, has been repeated in General Stebnitzky's instructions, and it therefore appeared to him desirable to have some proof that the line on the Persian Government map really represented the Persian claim, and had not (as he suggested was possible) been drawn on it by the Commissioners themselves. As a means of convincing him, I had the other sheets of the Persian map, and also of the Commissioners' maps, spread side by side, expecting to be able to show him that in many places their lines widely diverged from the Persian. But it then appeared that Kemball's silver ink line and Zelenoi's light red line were exact representations of the Persian line.

There was no doubt in my mind that the latter was what it purported to be: and the dilemma was that on the one hand it was absurd to suppose that the Commissioners had adopted wholesale the Persian claim: on the other it was difficult to imagine that the silver ink line so often affirmed by Sir A. Kemball to be the proposed line, and recorded as such in a red dotted line on the Foreign Office maps (one of which is in my possession, and another in the Embassy, with the said line duly authenticated), was anything else than the result of their joint endeavours for a solution. A renewed examination showed a line the same as that on the Turkish Government map representing the Turkish claim laid down on both Commissioners' maps—gold on Kemball's, green on Zelenoi's—while, between that and the line agreeing with the Persian claim, was a third line on both maps, in pencil on Kemball's, in yellow on Zelenoi's, sometimes merging in the Turkish, sometimes in the Persian line, and sometimes standing alone.

A curious circumstance which rendered the detection of the state of the case more difficult, was that on both maps these third lines ceased at the exact points which I had taken for the north and south ends of Khotour territory, which was therefore defined on Kemball's map only by the silver ink line, and on Zelenoi's by the red line corresponding to the silver ink one.

Kemball's intermediate pencil line ceases whenever it coincides with one of the other frontier lines; it might therefore have been accepted as his intention to adopt the Persian line around Khotour. But Zelenoi's yellow line, while at other points it runs side by side with one of the other lines during their coincidence, ceases about Khotour, where his light red line alone appears.

Thus, although there is no positive evidence that they did not both mean to adopt the Persian line around Khotour, yet there is not sufficient evidence that they did; while the complete misunderstanding that has hitherto existed as to what the silver ink line represented, and the absence of all mention of any other, render the matter still more uncertain.

An inspection of the other copies of the maps in the Foreign Office will show that, highly coloured as they are, green and yellow and pencilled lines would not be obvious on them, and require to be sought for.

However, General Stebnitzky, who has talked with General Zelenoi on the subject, is confident that the latter can make the matter clear to my satisfaction, and I shall therefore seek a settlement with him in the manner I have indicated from the first, which appears to me the only way in which the business can possibly be settled, and should I fail to receive from him sufficient demonstration, the only means left that I can think of would be a resumption of co-operation, so far as regards Khotour, between him and Sir Arnold Kemball.

At the same time, I have good hopes of finding myself able to join in the settlement. For this is a matter of restitution of territory seized on while the Commission was assembling to settle the frontier, and there is evidence in the pencilled notes on the maps that the Commissioners had assured themselves of points on the former boundary. And though Turkey has a right to demand to know the decision of the Commissioners before making the cession (if it is not already made), yet she is scarcely in a position to object to that decision, this territory being ceded by her in exchange for what she is to receive about Alashkird, and her claim to the latter being therefore dependent on her acquiescence.

Since writing thus far, I have received your Lordship's telegram with Sir Arnold Kemball's reassertion respecting the silver ink line, and as I am sending the two working maps of himself and General Zelenoi by this post, I will put what I have to say about it in another despatch.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

---

* No. 2.

No. 10.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received June 3.)

(No. 27.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, May 28, 1880.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of the 27th instant, by which I learn that Sir A. Kemball maintains that the silver ink line on his working map represents the frontier-line which the mediating Commissioners were prepared to recommend.

I have therefore thought it best to send the Khotour sheets of both Commissioners' working maps to you by post, for Sir Arnold's inspection.

It will be seen that on Sir A. Kemball's map there are three frontier-lines, namely, the silver ink line (over red), a gold line (over green), and an intermediate line, apparently in pencil, in some cases over yellow colour.

On General Zelenoi's there are also three lines, one in light red, one in green, and an intermediate one in yellow.

I can assure Sir Arnold that these sheets, and also the rest of their sets, have been carefully compared with the large-scale identic map, duly attested as having been delivered to the Persian Government, and that the only line drawn on it coincides with the silver ink line on Sir A. Kemball's map, and with the light red line on General Zelenoi's.

We have also compared the Turkish Government map with them, and find that the only line drawn on it corresponds with the gold line on Sir A. Kemball's and the green on General Zelenoi's map.

It would seem almost certain that the intermediate line on each map must represent the mediatory Commissioners' frontier.

On Sir A. Kemball's map the intermediate line intermits wherever it joins one of the others. Around Khotour, the silver ink line might, therefore, have been accepted as having been adopted by him. But on the other hand, General Zelenoi's intermediate line does not so intermit in general, but runs alongside of the other line, while it fails to appear round Khotour, leaving the red line to stand alone there.

I would also call attention to the circumstances noted on the paper attached to Sir A. Kemball's map, as additional perplexities, seeming to denote intentions which were not completed.

The press containing all maps belonging to the mediatory Commissioners in the Embassy has been most carefully examined, and no other maps relating to the business exist there.

I would beg Sir Arnold to place on a new copy of his own map, or a tracing, what he considers to have been the frontier which he and General Zelenoi were prepared to recommend for the territory of Khotour, from Mount Khydyr Baba on the north to Mount Haravil on the south.

I would also beg that this and the working maps may be returned to me at the very earliest date possible, and, if I have started for Armenia, I will take steps for having them safely forwarded to me. They had better be addressed "care of British Postmaster, Pera," and sent by post (unless the messenger would bring them equally quickly), and I will leave written instructions at the Post Office for their transmission to me. Should they come by messenger I will cause them still to be sent from the Embassy to the Postmaster here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

Note by Major-General Sir E. Hamley on Sir A. Kemball's Working Map.

Attention is directed to the following points:—

1. A short, strongly-marked pencil line, ending abruptly, from Mount Khydyr Baba along the crest of Mount Beré Guevran south of village of Koshakhli. (On Zelenoi's map this pencil line has yellow alongside it.)

2. Yellow line from Mount Khydyr Baba to a point on the Khotour Tchay west of the village of Razi, and faintly marked for a short distance towards the east along the river. (On Zelenoi's map this line is in pencil only.)

3. Two yellow lines along the watershed on either side of the "R, and defile Schira-Resch," these two watersheds being spurs running nearly due north from the Kara Hissar Mir-Omar range. (On Zelenoi's map these lines are in pencil only.)

4. Strongly marked pencil line, diverging from the "silver pink" line at a point north of village of Kiraton, and circling round sources of the Alba River by Mount Sournon to Mount Haravil. (On Zelenoi's map, pencil line over yellow.)

(Accompanying Sir E. Hamley's despatch No. 27 of the 28th May, 1880.)
May 28, 1880.

No. 11.

Sir A. Kemball to Mr. Currie.—(Received June 3.)

Dear Mr. Currie, *Stafford House, St. James', June 3, 1880.*

GENERAL HAMLEY has in every respect taken a correct view of the matter.

I must have been in error in supposing that silver ink indicated the Delegates' intermediate line.

That line appears to have been dotted in pencil, sometimes falling on and following the silver line, which defines the Persian pretensions, sometimes the gold line, which defines the Turkish pretensions, but more generally, I believe, following a course intermediate between the two.

In the neighbourhood of Khotour the Delegates (Zelinoi and myself) appear to have been at fault, the crests of two continuous ranges of hills being indicated (from 1½ mile to 2 miles apart) in both maps, which might be taken to represent our proposed frontier, leaving probably the selection of either crest an open question, to be determined on the spot. General Hamley, I believe, understands the retrocession of Khotour to be governed by considerations and obligations quite independent of the delimitation of the Turco-Persian frontier.

The circumstances of its forcible appropriation by Turkey in 1846-47 are fully detailed in the Reports of the then Commissioners, and in subsequent correspondence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

No. 12.

Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley.

(No. 16.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, June 3, 1880.*

YOUR despatches Nos. 26 and 27 of the 28th ultimo have been submitted to General Sir A. Kemball, with the original maps which accompanied them; and I now inclose a copy of a letter from him,* concurring in your view, and stating that he was in error in supposing that the silver ink line traced on his working map indicated the intermediate line which the Russian and English Delegates agreed to recommend as the frontier between Turkey and Persia.

The original maps are herewith returned, with an additional uncoloured copy of the sheet containing the Khotour district.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 13.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received June 7.)

(No. 28.)

My Lord, *Constantinople, June 1, 1880.*

I HAVE the honour to state the circumstances under which it has seemed to me expedient, notwithstanding my desire to proceed with the least possible delay to the frontier, to await the arrival of General Zelenoi at Constantinople.

1. The discovery respecting the working maps of the Anglo-Russian Commission.

It may be necessary for General Zelenoi to communicate by telegraph with Sir A. Kemball, which he could not well do from the frontier.

* No. 8.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

2. The Turkish Government has just expressed, very decidedly, its desire that the Commission should hold some preliminary meetings here.

3. In case of a meeting on the frontier I had suggested that points which could not be settled there should be reserved for the Cabinets. But General Stebnitzky has just communicated to me the line of frontier which he proposes (described in another despatch), and which is such that I can hardly anticipate any difficulty in so forwarding the business in one or two meetings here, as to leave nothing, after the Commission shall have visited the ground, for future settlement.

4. There has been some difficulty in supplying the Turkish Commissioner with the funds necessary for the journey, insomuch that, had there been no other causes for delay, I had thought of suggesting to your Lordship whether I might not be authorized to advance a sufficient sum to him, repayment to be made from the Cyprus revenue. He was to have been furnished only with an order on Trebizond for the money. I understand there are no funds available at Trebizond for the Turkish Government, and he might have been stopped at the outset of our journey.

In case of further difficulty of the kind, it will be well that all the Commissioners should be here, and that all should start together.

I do not yet know whether General Zelenoi will come here or not, but General Stebnitzky has telegraphed to the authorities at Tiflis that his presence is much to be desired. In the meantime General Stebnitzky has received authority to act for him, so that whether he comes or not the business can be forwarded by meetings of the Commission as soon as the Turkish Government approves of our assembling with General Stebnitzky as Acting Commissioner.

Much time and trouble would of course have been saved had General Zelenoi been instructed to come here at once on being appointed. It was only on finding that he was not expected here, that, to save further delay, I suggested a rendezvous on the frontier.

Accounts from Armenia still represent the warm season as retarded to an almost unprecedented degree, and snow in the high passes. Mr. Biliotti has informed me by telegraph that the main road from Trebizond to Erzeroum is being repaired, and will be practicable in a few days. It may be hoped, therefore, that the delays which have taken place in the assembly of the Commission will not prove in the end to have greatly retarded the conclusion of the business.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 14.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received June 7.)

(No. 29.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, June* 1, 1880.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have received from General Stebnitzky a map (scale 2 versts to 1 inch) of the second section of the Asiatic frontier, showing the line he proposes, subject of course to modification on discussion.

First, it shows two straight lines according to the Treaty—one from the new starting point A to a point on Mount Aka Baba about 1 verst to the north-east of Lower Medjingert, between it and Upper Medjingert, and leaving Lower Medjingert to Turkey; and the other, from the said point towards the summit of Kassa Dagh.

In the direction of these two lines, crossing and recrossing them, the proposed frontier is traced, and the spaces it includes on each side of the direct lines have been made scrupulously equal.

On attaining the watershed about 2 versts north of Kassa Dagh it turns along it, and follows it thenceforward.

I do not perceive that any important strategical circumstance is involved, and I conclude that any proposals for modification will arise from territorial considerations. Of these the Turkish Government will be best able to judge, and I propose to confine my action in the preliminary meetings to the endeavour to bring the two parties to any equitable agreement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 15.

Sir A. H. Layard to Earl Granville.—(Received June 8.)

(No. 559.)
My Lord, *Therapia, June* 1, 1880.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship copy of a note from the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs, expressing the desire of the Porte that the Commission for the delimitation of the Turco-Russian frontier should commence its work at Constantinople. I referred this note to General Hamley, and have the honour to inclose copies of the answer I received from that officer and of the reply which I addressed to Sawas Pasha in consequence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 15.

Sawas Pasha to Sir A. H. Layard.

Sublime Porte, le 27 *Mai*, 1880.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

J'AI reçu la note que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser le 25 Mai, relativement à la Seconde Commission de Délimitation des Frontières Turco-Russes en Asie.

Ainsi que j'en ai informé votre Excellence par ma note d'hier, le Gouvernement Impérial a nommé ses Délégués, mais le Ministre de la Guerre estime qu'il serait très-utile, et très-profitable à l'Etat, que cette Commission commençât ses travaux à Constantinople. Je viens donc prier votre Excellence de vouloir bien joindre ses efforts à ceux de la Sublime Porte pour arriver à ce résultat.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) SAWAS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 15.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Sir A. H. Layard.

Constantinople, May 29, 1880.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, inclosing one from Sawas Pasha, and inquiring what reply I should wish him to receive to his desire for the assembly of the Commission here.

General Stebnitzky, the Russian Commissioner for the first section of the Russo-Turkish frontier in Asia, informed me yesterday that a like communication had been addressed by the Porte to M. Novikoff, who had thereupon requested by telegram to St. Petersburgh, to which an answer is expected to-day, that General Stebnitzky should be authorized to deal as Commissioner with the preliminary questions respecting that frontier which the Turkish Government may desire to have discussed before the Commission shall begin its work on the ground.

I can understand the desire of the Porte, and shall be glad to have General Stebnitzky as a colleague in this stage of the business, as he has shown himself most frank and conciliatory, and time will be saved by appointing him to act, instead of awaiting the arrival of General Zelenoi from Tiflis.

At the same time, I have found it expedient, owing to difficulties which have unexpectedly appeared in the Khotour question, and which can only be explained by one of the former Commissioners, to join with General Stebnitzky in requesting Genera Zelenoi's presence here, the delay being probably a less evil than that which might arise from having to transact business with him elsewhere. This, however, is a matter with which the Porte has no present concern, and it will be better that it should form no part of your reply to the present question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

Inclosure 3 in No. 15.

Sir A. H. Layard to Sawas Pasha.

M. le Ministre, *Therapia, June* 1, 1880.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 25th instant, informing me of the wish of the Minister of War that the Commission for the delimitation of the Turco-Russian frontier in Asia should commence its work at Constantinople. In reply, I have the honour to state to your Excellency that General Hamley is prepared to enter upon the preliminary questions respecting that frontier which the Turkish Government may desire to have discussed before the Commission shall begin its work on the ground. General Hamley informs me that he will be glad to have General Stebnitzky as a colleague in this stage of the business, if that officer be authorized to act as Commissioner by the Russian Government, as time would thus be saved, instead of awaiting the arrival of General Zelenoi from Tiflis.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 16.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received June 14.)

(No. 31.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, June* 8, 1880.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the Commission of the second section of the Russo-Turkish frontier in Asia held its first meeting yesterday, the Commissioners being General Stebnitzky, Djévad Bey, and myself.

They requested me to preside, and agreed that I should act as mediator.

I have already described to you the line proposed by General Stebnitzky.

The fact that there are two Medjingerts occasioned, as it could not fail to do, a difference of opinion. General Stebnitzky maintained that Lower Medjingert was the point intended in Count Schouvaloff's trace, and referred to the 18th Protocol to prove that that trace was entitled to be accepted as the base of the discussion.

Djévad contended that the point could not be ascertained with certainty on maps so insufficient, and that as there were two Medjingerts in reality, and neither the Protocol nor the Treaty specified the one which was to be taken, the point could not be absolutely ascertained. He therefore proposed a point midway between the two. This in itself would involve no difference worth speaking of; but on the position of this point depends the drawing of the line, according to the Treaty, thence to Kassa Dagh, which passes through what is probably the most fertile part of the new frontier—a plain containing two villages. General Stebnitzky's line left both these to Russia. Djévad's line just included one for Turkey.

Your Lordship knows by my despatch No. 15 that I consider General Stebnitzky's contention a just one. But, on the other hand, it would not have been fair, in apportioning the compensations, when marking the deviations from the straight line, to have given all the plain and both villages to Russia. I therefore proposed to direct the frontier so as to include Kara-Kilina and its environs in Turkey, leaving the other to Russia, the line passing midway between the two; and General Stebnitzky agreed to this and to the fixing of the Medjingert point midway between that proposed by him and that proposed by Djévad, which gives some further small extent of territory to Turkey; moreover, the actual frontier will pass nearly midway between the two Medjingerts. General Stebnitzky, therefore, made distinct concessions, and I conveyed to him, as President of the meeting, my sense of his conciliatory course.

The agreement on the part of Djévad was made subject to the approval of the Turkish Government. I have expressed to Sawas Pasha my opinion how injudicious it would be to hesitate in accepting a solution so desirable.

After receiving this sanction, there will only remain to lay down on the map the justly-apportioned line of frontier on these new bases and to sign the Protocols, a work of one sitting, when no further alteration will take place except in such slight degree as local circumstances may show to be expedient on the ground. If I learn that General Zelenoi, according to a former arrangement, is to meet us on the frontier, I shall urge an immediate start. If he is to come here, the Khotour question may be settled first, for which, on receipt of the maps (which your Lordship's telegram of yesterday informed me were on their way

to me), everything will be ready, provided Sir Arnold Kemball has supplied me with the means of certifying his intentions respecting the frontier.

I am sorry to learn from Djévad Bey that he has received only the cash necessary to take his party to Trebizond, and will be dependent for further funds on an order on that place. He tells me also that as, besides transport, he is to pay the escort of troops and is to remain to mark out the frontier, he will require to be furnished there with £T. 500.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 17.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received June 14.)

(No. 32.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, June* 11, 1880.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 3rd June, with inclosure from Sir A. Kemball.

I had hoped that he would have been able to lay down for my guidance a definite line. I shall now endeavour, on meeting General Zelenoi, to learn from him what the line was which they had decided to adopt. If he can satisfy me so far as to enable me to join with him in testifying to a full belief in what was the intention of the former Commissioners, we will recommend the acceptance of it by the Turkish Government. But if he cannot enable me to do this a fresh mode of action must be arranged, because no authority exists for effecting a new delimitation between Turkey and Persia, and such authority can only proceed either from the Signatory Powers, or from so many of them as are interested in the question.

In all cases of delimitation under the Treaty of Berlin, new frontiers being created, they were defined as far as practicable by the Congress, and the fixing of them in detail was intrusted to specially authorized persons. Thus I have special authority to join in the fixing of a particularized new line in Armenia. But neither I nor any one else possesses authority for the fixing of a new line between Turkey and Persia, nor could any Power individually confer such authority. It would be impossible to write a Protocol on the subject, far less to demand a Turkish or Persian escort on visiting the ground.

All that the Treaty of Berlin says is that Turkey is to cede to Persia the territory of Khotour as delimited by a certain former Commission.

I would observe that a visit to the ground itself, for the purpose of modifying the line, would not in this case be admissible. In cases of new and partially-defined frontiers many reasons, strategical, geographical, and territorial, render such a step necessary. But this is a case of restitution of an old frontier, and the fixing of it is dependent not on any of the before-mentioned reasons, but on historical facts. These facts must be well known to the two Powers concerned; and I would, therefore, make the following suggestion for the new course of action, should it become necessary, namely, to invite Turkey to make such restitution in this part of the frontier as will satisfy Persia.

There are two reasons which render it more probable that she will consent to this: (1) The fact that she has already withdrawn from Khotour, which is occupied by a Persian garrison; (2) That she is only entitled to receive the Valley of Alashkerd in return for restoring the territory of Khotour. To this I may add that she has shown no disposition of late to be contentious in the matter.

In any case, the delimitation on the ground cannot be proceeded with until the suggested frontier shall be accepted by Turkey. It will then (in my view) devolve on the two Powers concerned to effect the marking of the frontier on the ground, and on a base strictly historical. As it is quite possible that Turkish and Persian officers might find some difficulty in identifying on the ground in a broken country the line on a map possibly not quite accurate, a Russian and an English officer (Engineers for choice, say Captains) might be deputed to assist them.

I should not have thought it necessary as yet to trouble your Lordship with this prospective view were it not that I hope to set out for Armenia in a few days, when discussions or instructions on this matter will become impossible; and I am desirous that you should not be under the impression that some alternative course may be open to me in case I should not be able to effect a settlement with General Zelenoi.

By next mail I expect to forward the Protocols which settle the preliminaries of the frontier in Armenia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

P.S.—I will endeavour to see the Ambassador to-day to explain the question to him, in case of reference in my absence.

E. B. H.

No. 18.

Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley.

(No. 18.)

Foreign Office, June 17, 1880.

Sir,

UNDER the circumstances described in your despatch No. 28 of the 1st instant, I quite approve your having remained at Constantinople to await the arrival there of the Russian Commissioner, General Zelenoi.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 19.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(*Received June* 21.)

(No. 33.)

Constantinople, June 15, 1880.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith two printed copies of each of the first three Protocols of the Asiatic Boundary Commission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Commission de Délimitation de la Seconde Section des Frontières Turco-Russes en Asie, instituée en vertu de l'Article LVIII du Traité de Berlin et de la Convention signée par le Marquis de Salisbury et le Comte Schouvaloff à Berlin, le 12 *Juillet*, 1878.

Protocole No. 1.—*Séance tenue à Constantinople, à l'Hôtel Royal, le* $\frac{26\ \text{Mai}}{7\ \text{Juin}}$ 1880.

Étaient présents :

Pour la Grande Bretagne—
M. le Major-Général Sir E. B. Hamley.
M. de Wolski, Capitaine du Génie.
M. J. J. Leverson, Lieutenant du Génie.

Pour la Russie—
M. Stebnitsky, Général d'Etat-Major.
M. Emélianoff, Conseiller de Cour.

Pour la Turquie—
Djévad Bey, Colonel d'Etat-Major.

LA séance est ouverte à 3 heures.

M. le Général Hamley présente sa commission signée par Sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, par laquelle il lui est conféré pleins pouvoirs et autorité pour prendre telles mesures et exécuter tels actes jugés nécessaires pour obtenir le résultat qu'on se propose en instituant la Commission.

M. le Général Stebnitsky présente une lettre signée par son Excellence l'Ambassadeur de Russie à Constantinople, par laquelle il l'autorise à se mettre en rapport avec les Délégués Britannique et Ottoman, pour la définition préliminaire de la seconde partie de la ligne-frontière.

Le Colonel Djévad Bey présente une lettre signée par son Excellence Dervich Pacha, Président de l'Etat-Major Général Ottoman, qui l'accrédite en qualité de Commissaire.

Les pouvoirs respectifs dont les Délégués sont munis ont été trouvés satisfaisants.

Le Général Stebnitsky, d'accord avec le Colonel Djévad Bey, propose au Général Hamley de diriger les travaux de la Commission et d'en accepter la Présidence.

Le Général Hamley dit que la Commission s'étant réunie à la capitale Ottomane, il croit, pour sa part, qu'il conviendrait mieux de proposer la Présidence au Colonel Djévad Bey.

Ce dernier décline la proposition, et prie le Général Hamley de ne pas persister dans son refus, parce que, étant moins intéressé que les autres Commissaires dans les détails de la délimitation, il lui sera plus facile qu'aux autres d'amener les débats de la Commission à une entente.

Le Général Hamley, cédant aux instances réitérées, accepte la Présidence, et exprime ses remercîments pour l'honneur qui lui a été fait par ses collègues.

Le Général Stebnitsky propose de sa part, M. Emélianoff comme Secrétaire de la Commission.

A son tour, le *Général Hamley* propose d'ajouter M. Leverson au Secrétariat.

Le Président, après avoir constaté que les formalités préliminaires ont été terminées, propose à ses collègues d'aborder les travaux qui ont amené la réunion de la Commission.

Le Général Stebnitsky en prenant la parole dit qu'il s'agit de faire le tracé de la ligne-frontière depuis Karaourgan jusqu'à Kessa Dagh. En se référant au Protocole No. 18 du Congrès de Berlin, on y trouve que ce tracé avait été débattu entre les Gouvernements respectifs Anglais et Russe, et accepté par le Gouvernement Anglais tel qu'il lui avait été communiqué par le Comte Schouvaloff lorsqu'il était Ambassadeur de Russie à Londres. D'après l'Article LVIII du Traité de Berlin et le Protocole No. 18, la ligne-frontière doit partir d'un point à l'ouest de Karaourgan, se diriger sur Medjingert, et continuer en ligne droite vers le sommet de la montagne Kesse Dagh. Pour rendre cette ligne plus claire et plus précise, le Commissaire Russe s'en remet à la carte portant le tracé convenu entre le Comte Schouvaloff et le Marquis de Salisbury, et dont la copie, dûment légalisée, se trouve entre les mains du Général Hamley. Cette carte, selon lui, explique clairement le texte du Traité de Berlin, ainsi que du Protocle No. 18, et les complète par rapport à la ligne dont il est question, et par conséquent, elle doit servir de base officielle aux travaux de la Commission. C'est en se basant sur cette carte et le Traité de Berlin, qu'il avait précédemment remis à son collègue Britannique un projet de frontière pour en faire aussi part au Colonel Djévad Bey, projet qu'il leur propose d'examiner maintenant, et d'accepter comme conforme à la pensée du Traité de Berlin.

Le Colonel Djévad Bey répond au Général Stebnitsky qui ne le Traité de Berlin, ni le Protocole No. 18 n'explique la question des deux Medjingert. Pour ce qui concerne la carte dont le Commissaire Russe vient de parler, elle ne peut pas être prise pour base, parce qu'elle est inexacte, fait constaté par le Protocole No. 18, où il est écrit que la Commission de Délimitation près du Congrès ne possédant ni la connaisance du terrain, ni les cartes et les documents nécessaires pour statuer sur les difficultés qui se sont produites dans la Commission Spéciale Militaire, propose de remettre la solution du différend et le tracé plus précis à une Commission Militaire qui se rendrait sur les lieux. Il en résulte que la carte invoquée par le General Stebnitsky ne peut pas servir de base, puisqu'elle n'éclaircit pas la question des Medjingert. Si le Congrès de Berlin savait qu'il y avait deux Medjingert, le Bas et le Haut, il aurait indiqué l'un des deux comme point de frontière ; mais comme ça n'a pas eu lieu, il pense que c'est à la Commission de décider de cette question. Voyant que le Commissaire Russe est très-conciliant, il espère que ses collègues accepteront sa ligne-frontière, qui est au nord du tracé du Général Stebnitsky, et qui passe au milieu des deux Medjingert, et se trouve indiquée sur la carte qu'il présente à la Commission.

Le Général Hamley prend la parole et exprime son opinion que le Bas Medjingert était le seul qui était marqué sur l'une des cartes originales, et c'est ainsi que le bas correspond le mieux à l'angle du tracé sur la copie de la carte officielle dont le Général Stebnitsky a fait mention. Il exprime que la vraie valeur du point consiste en ceci, que la ligne directe vers le sommet de Kessa Dagh se dirige à travers une plaine fertile sur laquelle se trouvent deux villages, et qu'elle laisse d'un côté ou de l'autre l'un de ces villages selon le point choisi.

Le Général Stebnitsky dit qu'il admet la possibilité des inexactitudes sur les cartes, mais que, pour le moment, il n'est pas question de cela, mais de Medjingert. La carte officielle invoquée par lui fait ressortir clairement que la ligne-frontière se dirige vers le Bas Medjingert, qui reste à la Turquie, et non pas vers le Haut Medjingert, qui passe évidemment à la Russie. Tout de même, pour établir, au plus vite possible, une entente, il fait une concession et accepte comme base les lignes qui passent au milieu de sa proposition et de celle du Commissaire Ottoman.

Le Colonel Djévad Bey insiste que le Congrès de Berlin avait l'intention de remettre à la Commission le choix de Medjingert, comme question de détail.

Le Général Stebnitsky est tout-à-fait d'un avis contraire ; il croit qu'il ne s'agit pas

encore d'un détail, mais d'un point déjà fixé, et qu'il ne reste, par conséquent, qu'à accepter le Medjingert que le Congrès du Berlin indique.

Le Général Hamley propose au Commissaire Ottoman d'accepter la concession du Général Stebnitsky, à la condition que le tracé de frontière définitif laisse à la Turquie le village de Kara Kilissa et ses terrains. Il indique sur la carte la ligne de partage qu'il propose, à travers la plaine dans laquelle le village est situé.

Le Général Stebnitsky consent à la proposition du Général Hamley.

Le Colonel Djévad Bey répète qu'il ne trouve pas la carte officielle assez exacte pour déterminer la direction de la ligne, et il ne considère pas la proposition du Général Stebnitsky comme une concession.

Le Général Hamley en s'adressant au Colonel Djévad Bey dit que selon l'idée du Général Stebnitsky, celui-ci n plus de documents pour appuyer sa prèmiere proposition que lui (le Commissaire Ottoman), et que par conséquent le Commissaire Russe estime qu'il fait une concession réelle. Pour sa part, le Général Hamley conseille au Commissaire Ottoman d'accepter les concessions.

Le Colonel Djévad Bey les accepte pour sa part, mais s'empresse de déclarer que sans consulter le Président de l'Etat-Major Général, il ne peut rien dire de définitif.

Le Capitaine de Wolski trace les nouvelles lignes qui doivent servir de base, sur la carte du Commissaire Ottoman, et les présente à la Commission.

Les Commissaires admettent en principe que la ligne-frontière à tracer sur les lieux ne devra séparer les villages de leurs terrains.

La séance est levée à 5 heures.

(Signé) E. B. HAMLEY.
J. STEBNITSKY.
A. DJÉVAD.

Certifié conforme à l'original :
(Signé) J. J. LEVERSON.
A. EMÉLIANOFF.

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

Protocole No. 2.—Séance tenue à Constantinople, à l'Hôtel Royal, le $\frac{28 \text{ Mai}}{9 \text{ Juin}}$, 1880.

Étaient présents :—

Pour la Grande Bretagne—
M. le Général Sir E. B. Hamley.
M. le Capitaine de Wolski.
M. le Lieutenant J. J. Leverson.

Pour la Russie—
M. le Général Stebnitsky.
M. le Conseiller de Cour Emélianoff.

Pour la Turquie—
M. le Colonel Djévad Bey.
M. le Chef d'Escadron Ishak Bey.

LA séance est ouverte à 3 heures.

Le Colonel Djévad Bey présente à la Commission son Adjoint, le Major Ishak Bey.

Le Protocole de la séance précédente est lu et adopté.

Le Colonel Djévad Bey déclare que son Gouvernement, étant animé du désir sincère d'exécuter le plus tôt possible les stipulations du Traité de Berlin, accepte le tracé de la ligne-frontière adopté par lui, sous réserve, à la séance précédente.

M. le Président invite ses collègues à s'entendre sur les détails.

Ces derniers, se ralliant à la proposition du Général Hamley, examinent, avec son concours, la ligne la plus naturelle, et tombent ensuite d'accord sur le tracé suivant :—

La frontière, partant du point à l'ouest de Karaourgan, désignée sur la carte par la lettre A, à 400 sagènes du méridien 59° 56' 40", comme il a été fixé par la Première Commission de Délimitation et accepté par le Commissaire Britannique, suit la ligne naturelle des sommets des collines jusqu'au point indiqué sur la carte par la lettre B ; puis tourne et atteint

la ligne qui joint les deux Medjingert au point C ; coupe cette ligne juste au milieu, et se dirige ensuite vers le point D, qui se trouve éloigné du point O de 3 verstes ; plus loin, la frontière passe par les points E, F, G ; ce dernier se trouve sur la rivière Araxe à une distance de $10\frac{1}{2}$ verstes, à peu près, du point O ; après, elle suit le cours de cette dernière (de l'Araxe) jusqu'au point H, se dirige ensuite par la ligne des collines et gagne le point I ; elle tourne et traverse les points J, K, L, en laissant le village de Kara-Kilissa et ses terrains à la Turquie, et le village de Sathan avec ses terrains à la Russie. Du point L, la frontière suit la ligne naturelle et passe par les points M, N, P, Q, R, S ; à ce dernier point, qui est distant du sommet de Kessa-Dagh (désigné par la lettre T) de $\frac{8}{10}$ verstes, la frontière touche à la crête des montagnes qui est la ligne de partage des eaux entre l'Araxe et la Mourad-Sou.

Ce tracé est désigné sur trois cartes faites d'après l'échelle d'un verste dans un pouce Anglais ou $\frac{1}{42000}$.

La ligne de frontière doit absolument suivre ce tracé, sauf dans les endroits où de petites modifications paraîtraient nécessaires pour ne pas séparer les villages de leurs terrains, ou pour donner préférence à la ligne naturelle.

Dans le cas où les Commissaires ne seraient pas unanimes pour une modification quelconque, ils suivront, nécessairement, dans telle partie, la ligne telle qu'elle est désignée sur les dites cartes, signées par eux.

Il est entendu que le bornage doit être effectué par les deux Gouvernements limitrophes, Russe et Ottoman.

La séance est levée à 5 heures.

(Signé) E. B. HAMLEY.
J. STEBNITSKY.
A. DJÉVAD.

Certifié conforme à l'original :
(Signé) J. J. LEVERSON.
A. EMÉLIANOFF.

Inclosure 3 in No. 19.

Protocole No. 3.—Séance tenue à Constantinople, à l'Hôtel Royal, le $\frac{31 \text{ Mai}}{12 \text{ Juin}}$, 1880.

Étaient présents :

Pour la Grande Bretagne—
M. le Général Sir E. B. Hamley.
M. le Capitaine de Wolski.
M. le Lieutenant J. J. Leverson.

Pour la Russie—
M. le Général Stebnitsky.
M. le Conseiller de Cour Emélianoff.

Pour la Turquie—
M. le Colonel Djévad Bey.
M. le Major Ishak Bey.

LA séance est ouverte à 3 heures.

Le Protocole de la séance précédente est lu et adopté.

Le Général Stebnitsky présente à la Commission les trois cartes mentionnées dans le Protocole No. 2, faites sur l'échelle d'un verste dans un pouce Anglais, ou $\frac{1}{42000}$, et qui portent toutes les trois le tracé établi dans la séance précédente.

M.M. les Commissaires, après les avoir examinées et signées, en retirent chacun un exemplaire pour en faire usage sur la frontière.

Le Président en prenant la parole dit que les travaux préliminaires étant heureusement aboutis, la Commission doit maintenant se rendre sur la frontière. Il ne lui reste, en prenant congé du Général Stebnitsky, qu'à le remercier de l'esprit conciliant qu'il a montré durant les débats, ce qui a beaucoup contribué à amener l'entente des Commissaires.

Le Colonel Djévad Bey s'empresse de s'associer aux sentiments exprimés par le Général Hamley.

Le Général Stebnitsky exprime sa satisfaction de ce qu'il a pu être agréable à ses honorables collègues Britannique et Ottoman, et regrette d'être obligé de s'en séparer.

La séance est levée à 4 heures.

(Signé) E. B. HAMLEY.
J. STEBNITSKY.
A. DJÉVAD.

Certifié conforme à l'original :
(Signé) J. J. LEVERSON.
A. EMÉLIANOFF.

No. 20.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received June 21.)

(No. 263.)
My Lord, *St. Petersburgh, June 16, 1880.*

I HAVE the honour to state that in accordance with your Lordship's instructions contained in your despatch No. 234 of the 1st instant, I called on M. de Giers and expressed to him the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government, at the spirit in which General Hamley has been met by General Stebnitsky; and I enquired whether General Stebnitsky might not receive authority to arrange the final settlement with General Hamley, of the Khotour boundary.

In reply M. de Giers informed me that he was under the impression that the business had already been satisfactorily concluded.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 21.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received June 21.)

(No. 34.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, June 15, 1880.*

I HAVE the honour, in forwarding copies of Protocols (in another cover) which record the preliminary business of the Asiatic Boundary Commission, to offer some observations on them.

I did not at first propose any line myself, but, in private interviews with my colleagues separately, invited them to do so; and an approximation of their respective views being thereby facilitated, I found no difficulty, when the Commission met, in proposing terms which they would both agree to.

I must again record my sense of the conciliatory temper which marked the course of the Russian Commissioner throughout the proceedings.

It will be seen that the frontier is now absolutely fixed, except for some deviations which will probably be necessary on the ground. The Turkish Commissioner wished to provide for the solution of such questions by a vote of the majority. But objections had already been made last year to the majority principle in this Commission. I therefore endeavoured to turn to account the existence of a line already in the main fixed, by proposing those conditions as to deviation from it which will be found at the end of the second Protocol, and which were at once agreed to. Consequently there is nothing now to prevent the line from being laid down on the ground with the utmost speed and certainty, and the remainder of the business will be entirely topographical.

As there now exists a Russian map of the country between Karaourgan and Kassa Dagh, on the scale of a verst to an inch, it will not be necessary to make fresh maps of that portion of the frontier.

Sir Lintorn Simmons' replies to my questions arrived too late to be of use; but this was not material. As your Lordship knows, I had previously come to the same conclusion as regards the Medjingert villages, and had told the Turkish Commissioner that I had no doubt the lower one was that intended in Count Schouvaloff's trace; and as to the line from thence towards Kassa Dagh, it will be seen to deviate but slightly from the direct one, and to form a better frontier.

Nothing remains to be done but to go to the ground as soon as possible. I named Wednesday next, the 16th instant, to my Turkish colleague as the latest day to which I could consent to postpone our departure, to which he agreed; but, as I had anticipated,

it was found that cash for his order on Trebizond was not forthcoming. I had, therefore, to ask the British Ambassador to press the matter, and, at General Stebnitzky's request, M. Novikoff also intervened, and Djevad Bey now tells me that he is to have part of the money here, but I am sorry to say an order on Trebizond is still to be given for the remainder. Therefore, though we shall probably start on the above-named day, his funds may still fail at Trebizond. He is, notwithstanding my remonstrances, to be accompanied by two other officers, who can be, I imagine, of no possible use, seeing that there are two English officers and two Russian prepared to do any topographical work that may be needed. Should he be delayed for want of money on the road, I propose, therefore, to supply him with what will be sufficient for him alone, taking his receipt for it.

I am informed by General Stebnitzky that General Zelenoy holds himself in readiness at Tiflis to proceed to meet us whenever he hears we are *en route* for the frontier.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 22.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received June 23.)

(No. 35.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, June 16, 1880.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I learned yesterday from Djevad Bey that he had received half the funds he considered necessary, and an order on Trebizond for the remainder, and that he had taken passage for himself and party in the steamer which leaves for Trebizond very early to-morrow.

I have taken passage for myself and party, and we shall embark this evening. The steamer is due at Trebizond early on the 19th instant.

We shall have to stay two or three days there to get our transport ready for the journey to Erzeroum, and a short time in Erzeroum to obtain fresh horses, &c., for the journey to the frontier and along it. General Zelenoy, with whom I shall be in communication by telegraph, will meet us near Karaourgan. From thence we shall proceed along the frontier, and as we shall be journeying always to the eastward, and shall leave off near a high road to Tiflis, it is probable that we shall return by that city, from whence there is a railway to the Black Sea at Poti.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 23.

Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley.

(No. 19.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, June 30, 1880.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 34 of the 15th instant, relative to the preliminary business of the Asiatic Boundary Commission, and I have to acquaint you that your proceedings, as therein reported, are approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 24.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received July 26.)

(No 36.)
My Lord, *Erzeroum, July 10, 1880.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I arrived with my party, accompanied also by the Turkish party, at Trebizond on the evening of the 19th June, and after procuring transport, not without difficulty, started for Erzeroum on the 24th. We travelled by the main road, which has been, as reported, very much damaged by floods, and is in places almost impassable by waggons.

We reached this place on the 4th July, when I communicated with General Zelenoy

(as I had done from Trebizond) by telegraph. In reply he informed me that he would leave Tiflis on the 8th July, and telegraph again to me from Kars that I might not have to await him on the frontier. I have made arrangements for leaving this on the morning of the 12th along with the Turkish party, and hope that the Commission will be assembled on the frontier by the 15th or 16th, when the work will be at once proceeded with.

My party are all in good health.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 25.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received September 14.)

(No. 37.) *Sary Kamish, July 27, 1880.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, pursuant to instructions, I met General Zelenoy to-day at Sary Kamish, a small town about 15 miles on the Russian side of the new frontier, where he has established himself while the topographical parties of officers are going over the ground about Medjingert, in order to settle with him, if possible, the frontier of Khotour.

He was so clear in his recollections and explanations that I had no difficulty in recognizing the intention of the former mixed Anglo-Russian Commission respecting the line of that frontier, and we have accordingly drawn up the Protocol which I have the honour to inclose.

It had been arranged that I should send my copy to the British Ambassador at Constantinople, and General Zelenoy his to the Russian Ambassador there, in order that they might jointly present the document containing our recommendation of a frontier-line for acceptance by the Porte. But General Zelenoy does not consider himself authorized to communicate with the Ambassador, and desires to forward his copy to M. de Giers; and in order that we may act in entire conformity in the matter, I have the honour to forward mine to your Lordship.

In view of this meeting I had four copies of the part of the "identic" map relating to Khotour made by Captain de Wolski and Lieutenant Leverson at Constantinople. They were intended for the four Governments interested. General Zelenoy is forwarding two with his Protocol, and I forward two with mine.

Captain Everett, Vice-Consul at Erzeroum, was very desirous of accompanying me from thence to the frontier, and Major Trotter having given him leave, I was glad to avail myself of his services as a very skilful topographer. The other two officers being engaged in going along the frontier-line, I brought him here with me; hence the appearance of his name in the Protocol as present at the séance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 26.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received August 14.)

(No. 38.) *Medjingert, July 29, 1880.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I met General Zelenoy on the 27th instant at Sary Kamysh, when we succeeded in describing a frontier-line for Kotour as being that which the former Mixed Anglo-Russian Commission had agreed upon, and in recommending it for acceptance by the Porte in a Protocol.

This document, together with two maps containing the proposed frontier-line, rolled in a separate parcel, was dispatched yesterday to your Lordship, together with a despatch on the subject by way of Tiflis, the Russian Commissioner undertaking to forward them by courier to Kars, where they would be posted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 27.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received August 30.)

(No. 39.) *Kara-Kilissé, August 11, 1880.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform you of the proceedings of the Asiatic Boundary Commission since its arrival on the frontier, and to explain the telegrams which I had occasion to send from thence.

The Turkish party and my own encamped in the valley between Zivin and Kara-Ourgan, close to the frontier, on the afternoon of the 14th July. As I had kept General Zelenoy constantly informed of my movements, I had fully expected to find him on or near the frontier. I had no news of him, however, till the 18th, when an officer arrived with a letter from him, saying he had reached Sary Kamysh on the 16th, and inviting his colleagues to join him there, and using that place as a depôt to make excursions from thence to the frontier.

Sary Kamysh is about 16 miles on the Russian side of the frontier on the road to Kars. It was formerly a small village, but it is now the head-quarters of an entire Russian infantry regiment, besides cavalry, and is growing rapidly into a town. Here General Zelenoy had established himself very comfortably.

In reply to his invitation, I represented to him that, being quite prepared to proceed along the frontier, encamping at such points as might be necessary, I should only find myself hindered by going to Sary Kamysh, and begged him to meet his colleagues on the frontier without delay. He had mentioned in his letter that more conveniences for constructing the boundary marks would be found at Sary Kamysh than elsewhere, and I therefore pointed out in my reply that, by a clause of Protocol 2, Great Britain was exempt from participation in that work, and that, in my opinion, the delimitation, so far as I was to take part in it, might be effected, and my party at liberty to return home, in a very short time.

I heard nothing more of him till the evening of the 20th, when he arrived with his party at Kara-Ourgan, and sent an officer to his colleagues to propose a séance for the following morning. We met accordingly, when it was arranged that the joint topographical party should be divided into two sections of three officers each, to work simultaneously upon two parts of the frontier, one from Kara-Ourgan to Medjingert, the other from Medjingert to the Araxes. But he then went on to announce that, as he had received strict orders from the Government of the Caucasus to have the boundary marks erected along the line as soon as the successive parts should be delimited, he would not proceed beyond the Araxes until that portion of the work should be complete, and also personally inspected by him.

I protested against this delay as altogether unnecessary, inasmuch as ample time would remain after the delimitation for the fixing of the marks, and in this I was supported by the Turkish Commissioner. Nevertheless, he persisted in his determination, and also in returning to Sary Kamysh next morning to prepare for their construction.

On asking for further particulars as to the intended nature of the marks, I found they were to be pyramids, 3 feet high, built of stone, with a base, painted and numbered; that no workmen were as yet at his disposal for the purpose; that it was doubtful if sufficiently skilled masons could be found near the frontier; that the stones and mortar must be conveyed to the different points, and that the number of the marks was as yet unknown. Under these circumstances, he could not, evidently, fix a time for their completion, nor could any estimate have been relied on. I urged him to commit the work to other officers, and to proceed throughout with the delimitation, but this he declared to be impossible.

On my proposing that the topographical party should begin work next morning, he said they were unprepared to remain, and must return to Sary Kamysh, but would be at Medjingert, prepared to remain, on the evening of the 23rd. They did not appear (giving no explanation why) till the evening of the 24th, that is to say, ten days after the rest of the Commission had arrived on the frontier. Considering that General Zelenoy had been long before appointed Commissioner, and had been in communication with me throughout our movements through Armenia, and that he was engaged in an international duty with a military party, this unreadiness cannot be considered creditable to him as the officer in charge. I never received any explanation of it, though I often adverted to it.

It further appeared that he estimated six days as necessary for the work of the topographical party, and announced that he would rejoin the Commission on the 30th for the purpose of considering the Reports of the officers, and thereupon fixing the line. I

said I believed three days would suffice (which proved correct), and asked him what he proposed to do in case of their finishing sooner than he expected. He replied that, on being apprised of it, he would endeavour to come earlier than the date he had fixed.

Your Lordship will perceive that the absence of a Commissioner from an International Commission at his pleasure cannot be warranted by any orders he may have received from his own Government, and that the independence General Zelenoy assumed would have rendered it impossible for me to act with him. But as I could not oblige him and his officers to remain, I contented myself with the protests that will be found in the Protocol, and sent the telegrams of the 22nd and 24th July to your Lordship.

I had, moreover, to bear in mind the duty of completing with General Zelenoy the Kotour business, and consequent expediency of postponing possible disagreements. I told him I would go to Sary Kamysh on that business from my camp at Medjingert on the 26th July. I went accordingly, accompanied by Captain Everett. General Zelenoy very kindly invited me to stay in his camp, but, in view of the very serious remonstrance I intended to address to him, I thought it better to quarter myself in a house in the village. By the afternoon of the 28th the Kotour business was done, and as soon as the papers were sealed and addressed, I inquired what course General Zelenoy now proposed to take in the business of the Commission. Finding that he not only meant to persist in the resolutions he had announced, but intended, after the conclusion of the delimitation up to the Araxes, to return to Sary Kamysh, and there remain till the boundary marks should be ready for his inspection, I told him (in perfectly courteous terms and manner, which were preserved throughout) that I had felt it necessary to warn my Government of the difficulties he was raising in the path of the Commission, and that I trusted my messages were already conveyed to the Russian Government; that neither the Commission nor myself were subject to the orders of the Russian Government, and that I could not, as President of the Commission, assent to a delay upon such grounds. In attempting to justify the delay, he imprudently let some arguments escape which would almost warrant a belief in an intention on his part (which I should, however, be sorry to attribute to him) to place difficulties in my way. He observed that, as the English Government had, uninvited, insisted on taking part in the Commission, it could not complain if the proceedings were conducted without reference to its convenience (a matter which, I observed, it was not for him to refer to); that Major Clarke had caused a great deal of delay last year (on which I remarked that Major Clarke would probably ascribe the delay to General Zelenoy, but that it was a topic which I declined to discuss); that he was extremely dissatisfied with the concessions made by General Stebnitzky, and had recommended his Government not to ratify them; and that he was also displeased because the Commission had not, as he desired, assembled at Tiflis. I then told him that if, as seemed likely, he made it impossible for me to act with him, I should, for my own justification, demand an inquiry into his course as Commissioner; that I should greatly lament the failure of the Commission, but should throw the responsibility of it on him. I observed that for him to await idly at Sary Kamysh the completion of the boundary marks was a pure waste of time, and (as it was at that time assumed that the Commission would visit that portion of the frontier east of Kassa-Dagh), I requested him to spend the interval in accompanying me thither. He was evidently much shaken in his intentions by what I had said, and replied that, though he would not go himself, he would consider whether he could spare an officer to accompany me. His own officers came in from Medjingert while I was with him, reporting the completion of their work on the preceding day. I pointed out that another day was now lost by his absence from the Commission, and requested him to come next day to Medjingert, which he agreed to; after which I returned thither.

Next day, instead of appearing, he sent me a note, excusing himself on the score of preparing for the boundary marks, and also of the need of providing an escort for the visit to the frontier, but promised to come the following day. In reply, I said that I had since reconsidered the question of visiting the eastern part of the frontier—that, as the Treaty required the watershed to be the frontier throughout, no modification was possible there, and it only remained to ascertain the watershed in the passes, which could be done with certainty by the other Commissioners when they should fix the boundary marks there, that the rest of that part of the frontier was inaccessible, and that I should propose, with the consent of my colleagues, to mark the watershed on the Russian map, which had been proved an excellent and completely reliable one, without visiting the locality. I also said that I trusted he would come next day prepared to proceed at once with the work between the Araxes and the Kassa Dagh, and I ended by remonstrating strongly (in carefully courteous terms) against his continued absence from the Commission, and his apparent desire to regulate its proceedings without reference to his colleagues. On his appearance next day, the General said he had felt hurt at what I had said in this

note, and asked if I meant it to be official or private, as, if official, he must forward it to his Government.

I begged him by all means to do so, upon which he dropped the subject, and assured me that he desired to pursue the most conciliatory course possible, and would detail an officer at once to proceed with the topographical party to the frontier between the Araxes and the Kassa Dagh, as soon as we had finished the first portion, and that he agreed with me entirely as to the uselessness of visiting the frontier beyond the Kassa Dagh. He also agreed to rejoin the Commission at Kara Kilissa on the day when the topographical party would have finished their work there.

It was after this conversation (at the close of which, as he seemed still to have my letter on his mind, I requested him to consider it private, if he so wished) that I telegraphed to your Lordship that matters were taking a more hopeful turn.

That evening and next day séances were held, when the frontier from Kara-Ourgan to the Araxes was finally fixed, and, the inutility of visiting the western frontier being unanimously admitted, the line of it was traced on the map. General Zelenoy promised to come to Kara Kilissa on the 6th August, on which day, it was calculated, the preliminary work would be complete.

He came accordingly and has remained ever since, and at the next day's séance the remainder of the line from the Araxes to the Kassa Dagh was finally agreed to and traced. It now only remained to place the frontiers on the maps, to write the acts which verbally record the frontiers, to sign and seal them, and to complete and sign the Protocols. All this was completed this day, and I start this afternoon for Constantinople by Kars and Tiflis, taking with me a signed copy of each Protocol, of the Act, and of the map, for transmission to your Lordship.

While the course taken by General Zelenoy at first has occasioned a certain loss of time, it is evident that the delay thus caused has been small to what might have taken place had he been allowed to proceed without remonstrance. And it will, perhaps, be considered, in view of that course, that it would have been very unfortunate for the progress of the Commission that it should have assembled, as he proposed, for its preliminary discussions, at Tiflis.

I desire, however, to record that our relations have been friendly and cordial throughout, and that, since his arrival at Kara Kilissa, he has co-operated effectively in the business of the Commission, with his officers, who are excellent topographers, and have done very valuable work.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 28.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received September 7.)

(No. 40.) *Therapia, August 31, 1880.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to forward by to-day's messenger the following documents concerning the delimitation of the Russo-Turkish frontier in Asia, viz.:—

1. The remaining Protocols, recording the proceedings of the Commission for the second section of that frontier after its meetings at Constantinople were over, numbered 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

2. The Act describing that section of the new frontier, duly signed and sealed.

3. In a separate roll, three maps, namely:—

(*a.*) A Russian map, on the scale of $\frac{1}{210000}$ (1 verst to an inch), containing the line of that portion of the frontier, as finally settled, which extends from the starting point west of Karaourgan to the watershed on the Kassa Dagh mountain; duly signed and sealed.

(*b.*) A Russian map on the scale of $\frac{1}{84000}$ (2 versts to an inch, none having been executed of this portion on a larger scale), containing the line of the remaining portion of the frontier, as finally settled, from the point where the line described in (*a*) touches the watershed on the Kassa Dagh mountain, to the point where it joins the old Russo-Turkish frontier; duly signed and sealed.

(*c.*) A Russian map on the scale of $\frac{1}{126000}$, signed by the Commissioners, containing the line of that portion described in (*a*) as it was provisionally fixed at Constantinople,

subject only to certain modifications, on the ground, for definite reasons described in Protocol No. 2, and which should be annexed to that Protocol.

These maps were prepared under the direction of the Military Topographical Department of the Caucasus; the contours are at 35 feet intervals; the maps are very skilfully executed, and have been found perfectly trustworthy for the purposes of the Commission. Some were originally prepared on the smaller of the two scales specified, and a part only on one of double that size. Copies were liberally supplied by the Russian Commissioners, Generals Stebnitzky and Zelenoy.

On arriving on the frontier, topographical parties, composed of Russian, Turkish, and English officers, provided with copies of (*c*), proceeded along the frontier, testing the accuracy of the map, and noting all points where it might be desirable, for the aforesaid reasons, to modify the line already drawn on it; after which their reports and proposals formed the basis of subsequent modifications by the Commissioners, which were few and of insignificant extent.

As stated in my No. 39, it was considered sufficient to place the new frontier-line on (*b*) along the watershed without visiting the locality, which is only accessible at the very difficult passes, and which, according to the provisions of the Treaty of Berlin, could be in no case subject to modification.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 28.

Protocole No. 4.—Séance tenue à Karaourgan, le $\frac{8}{21}$ Juillet, 1880.

Étaient présents :

Pour la Grande Bretagne—
M. le Général Sir E. B. Hamley,
M. le Capitaine de Wolski, et
M. le Lieutenant J. J. Leverson.

Pour la Russie—
M. le Général Zelenoy,
M. le Colonel Koulberg,
M. le Capitaine Zavrieff, et
M. le Capitaine Solmatcheff.

Pour la Turquie—
M. le Colonel Djévad Bey,
M. le Major Ishak Bey,
M. le Major Ibrahim Bey, et
Gabriel Effendi (Noradounghian).

LA séance est ouverte à 11 heures.

M. le Général Zelenoy présente à la Commission une lettre signée par M. le Général Pavloff, Chef de l'Etat-Major Général de l'Armée du Caucase, qui l'accrédite en qualité de Commissaire.

M. le Général Zelenoy prend la parole, et propose de conférer la Présidence de la Commission au Général Hamley, lequel, dit-il, étant le plus ancien en grade a tout droit à cette distinction.

M. le Colonel Djévad Bey ajoute de son côté, que déjà à Constantinople la Présidence a été donnée au Général Hamley, et qu'il s'estime heureux maintenant de se trouver de nouveau en accord avec son collègue Russe.

M. le Général Hamley accepte la Présidence, et remercie ses collègues de l'honneur qui lui est fait.

M. le Colonel Djévad Bey présente à la Commission Gabriel Effendi (Noradounghian), et propose de l'adjoindre au Secrétariat.

Cette proposition est acceptée.

M. le Général Zelenoy désire connaître avant tout la procédure qui sera adoptée et suivie pour la marche des travaux de la Commission. Il pense qu'il y a lieu de fixer d'abord, sur la carte même, les points principaux où il sera nécessaire que la Commission tout entière se transporte.

Cette question donne lieu à une échange de vues entre MM. les Commissaires.

Sur la proposition du Général Zelenoy, la Commission décide de confier les travaux topographiques de la partie de la ligne-frontière qui se trouve entre Karaourgan et l'Araxe à deux sections, qui travailleront simultanément, et dont la première commencera à Karaourgan pour s'arrêter à Medjingert, et la seconde partira de ce dernier point et continuera la ligne jusqu'à l'Araxe, de façon que les deux sections puissent en même temps soumettre leur travail à la Commission.

La tâche confiée à ces deux sections est—

1. De reconnaître sur le terrain la ligne-frontière adoptée à Constantinople, et précisée dans le deuxième Protocole.

2. En faisant la reconnaissance du terrain, de chercher de trouver des lignes plus naturelles.

3. De constater et de reconnaître les propriétés des villages qui se trouvent sur la ligne.

4. De proposer les points les plus propres à l'érection des marques de bornage.

Il est convenu que les deux sections se réuniront au Haut Medjingert Vendredi soir, afin de pouvoir commencer les travaux topographiques Samedi, le $\frac{14}{26}$ Juillet.

Sont désignés pour faire partie de la première section :

MM. le Capitaine de Wolski, le Capitaine Zavrieff, et le Major Ishak Bey ;

Et de la seconde :

MM. le Lieutenant Leverson, le Capitaine Solmatcheff, et le Major Ibrahim Bey.

La question des travaux de bornage ayant surgi, *M. le Général Zelenoy* observe qu'il a des instructions très-positives de son Gouvernement de procéder à la fixation de la frontière, y compris les travaux de bornage; que dès lors il ne pourra quitter la vallée de l'Araxe et passer dans celle d'Alashkerd avant d'avoir fait ériger dans la première les marques de bornage, et d'y avoir établi, pour ainsi dire, une frontière définitive.

M. le Général Hamley remarque que la question de marques permanentes de bornage est en dehors de la question de délimitation, et que la seconde seule (c'est-à-dire la délimitation) le concerne. Selon lui les devoirs de la Commission Tripartite sont de vérifier la carte, et de tracer là-dessus la ligne-frontière, après avoir visité le terrain. Pour achever les travaux de bornage il faut un temps assez considérable et indéfini, pendant lequel lui et ses officiers seraient inutilement retenus dans ce pays. Il ajoute que chaque jour de délai entraîne une dépense inutile pour son Gouvernement, et propose à ses collègues de visiter toute la ligne-frontière sans plus tarder.

M. le Commissaire Ottoman dit que lui aussi a des ordres de son Gouvernement de faire les travaux de bornage, mais pour ne pas retarder le départ de M. le Commissaire de la Grande Bretagne, il est tout disposé à faire d'abord la délimitation, et de construire plus tard les marques de bornage.

M. le Commissaire Russe répond que ses ordres sont si positifs, que sans se référer à son Gouvernement, il ne peut pas adhérer à la proposition du Général Hamley, mais que si celui-ci le désire il portera le sujet de la contestation à la connaissance du Chef de l'Etat-Major Général du Caucase. Il craint, en même temps, que dans tout cas il ne pourra pas recevoir une réponse quelconque que dans trois semaines au plus tôt.

Après une longue discussion, *M. le Général Zelenoy* dit qu'il lui faut dix jours pour faire les préparatifs relatifs à la construction des marques de bornage, mais qu'il consent après ce temps à visiter, avec ses collègues, la ligne-frontière, et de confier la surveillance des travaux de bornage à un de ses adjoints.

Il est convenu que la prochaine séance aura lieu au Haut Medjingert, Samedi, le $\frac{13}{25}$ Juillet, ou plus tôt, si M. le Commissaire Russe peut finir ses préparatifs avant cette date; et que la Commission se rendra plus tard à Kara Kilissa, et passera ensuite dans la vallée d'Alashkerd.

Il est aussi décidé que la séance sera reprise le soir à 4 heures, et qu'à 5 heures la Commission se transportera sur le terrain pour y fixer le point à l'ouest de Karaourgan.

A 1 heure la séance est levée.

A 4 heures la séance est reprise.

Étaient présents :

Les mêmes membres qu'à la séance du matin.

M. le Général Zelenoy prend la parole, et dit que, depuis la séance du matin il a étudié avec beaucoup de soin la question des travaux de bornage, et que, vu les ordres positifs qu'il a de faire une délimitation définitive en même temps que la délimitation sur la carte, et le petit nombre d'officiers qui sont à sa disposition, il se trouve dans l'impossibilité de passer dans la vallée d'Alashkerd avant d'avoir complété tout-à-fait les travaux de bornage dans celle de l'Araxe. Il ajoute qu'il regrette beaucoup ce délai, qu'il fera son possible pour accélérer les travaux, et que sans pouvoir préciser au juste le temps nécessaire, il espère que le retard ne sera pas plus d'une semaine.

Une discussion s'ensuit, pendant laquelle *M. le Général Hamley* répète avec beaucoup d'insistance les observations qu'il avait faites le matin, et propose au Général Zelenoy de se rendre dans la vallée d'Alashkerd pour y faire la délimitation, et de retourner plus tard à celle de l'Araxe pour inspecter les marques de bornage, au lieu de rester à Sary Kamysh sans rien faire pendant toute la durée de la construction des dites marques.

M. le Colonel Djévad Bey approuve la proposition du Commissaire Britannique, mais *M. le Général Zelenoy* répète qu'il lui est impossible d'y accéder attendu que les travaux de bornage seraient laissés alors sans aucune direction à cause du petit nombre d'officiers que possède la Commission Russe de même que la Commission Ottomane, et il ajoute qu'il voit là un énorme inconvénient, celui de faire exécuter à sa Commission une triple marche de toute la frontière, et la probabilité, avec cette perte de temps, de ne pas avoir cette année le bornage posé sur toute la ligne, point capital pour son Gouvernement, qui désire à la fin de cette année avoir une frontière définitive et pratique, et non de théorie.

M. le Général Hamley objecte, en réponse, que selon le Protocole No. 2 il est exempt de la participation aux travaux de bornage, qui ne le concernent point, et qu'il ne doit pas être retardé par eux. Il pense d'ailleurs que la délimitation seule demandera peu de temps, et qu'il sera très-facile de remettre à un peu plus tard la construction des bornes, et il demande ensuite combien de temps il faut pour les achever.

M. le Général Zelenoy dit que, pour le moment, il ne peut pas répondre à cette question. Il lui faut d'abord retourner à Sary Kamysh, et s'informer des ressources dont il pourra disposer.

M. le Président remarque qu'il est temps que la Commission se rende sur le terrain pour arrêter définitivement le point à l'ouest près du village de Karaourgan avant le coucher du soleil.

Comme M. le Général Zelenoy a dit qu'il est obligé de retourner à Sary Kamysh le lendemain matin, il n'y a aura pas d'occasion plus propice pour établir ce point. Pour cette raison il propose à ses collègues d'ajourner le débat.

A 5 heures la séance est levée.

(Signé) E. B. HAMLEY.
A. ZELENOY.
A. DJÉVAD.

Certifié identique :
(Signé) J. J. LEVERSON.
GABRIEL NORADOUNGHIAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 28.

Protocole No. 5.—Séance tenue au Haut Medjingert le $\frac{13}{25}$ *Juillet*, 1880.

Étaient présents :

Pour la Grande Bretagne—
M. le Général Sir E. B. Hamley,
M. le Capitaine de Wolski, et
M. le Lieutenant J. J. Leverson.

Pour la Russie—
M. le Général Zelenoy,
M. le Colonel Koulberg,
M. le Capitaine Zavrieff, et
M. le Capitaine Solmatcheff.

Pour la Turquie—
M. le Colonel Djévad Bey,
M. le Major Ishak Bey,
M. le Major Ibrahim Bey, et
Gabriel Effendi (Noradounghian).

LA séance est ouverte à 6 heures.

Lecture étant donnée du Protocole No. 4, sur la demande de M. le Général Zelenoy, l'adoption en est remise à la séance prochaine.

M. le Président prend la parole et s'exprime dans les termes suivants :—

"La délimitation de la frontière qui est dévolue à notre Commission peut être divisée en deux parties distinctes, relativement à la procédure à suivre pendant nos travaux ; la première sera la ligne située entre Karaourgan et le Kessa Dagh, et la seconde celle de Kessa Dagh au point de jonction de l'ancienne frontière.

"Cette seconde partie de la frontière passe d'après le Traité de Berlin par la ligne du partage des eaux, et ne présente aucune difficulté à la Commission. Je crois par conséquent qu'il sera suffisant de la fixer sur la carte, et qu'il sera peut-être reconnu superflu de se rendre sur le terrain, à moins toutefois que mes collègues n'en expriment le désir contraire. L'accès des crêtes sur toute cette ligne et les deux passes qui s'y trouvent, offrent d'ailleurs peu de moyens et de facilités, étant presque toujours encombrées par les neiges.

"Pour ce qui concerne la délimitation de la première partie, c'est-à-dire la frontière située entre Karaourgan et le Kessa Dagh, où il pourra être apporté des modifications à la ligne, je demande que la Commission prenne une décision définitive, et je pense que les Protocoles de la Commission et un acte final sont suffisants, avec la désignation sur la carte et la reconnaissance sur le terrain, pour arrêter définitivement cette partie de la frontière."

M. le Président prie ses collègues de vouloir bien exprimer leur opinion relativement aux propositions qu'il a l'honneur de leur soumettre.

En ce qui regarde la partie de la frontière sise entre le Kessa Dagh et le point de jonction de l'ancienne frontière, *M. le Général Zelenoy* se rallie complétement à l'avis exprimé par M. le Président. Il pense comme lui que la ligne du partage des eaux est tellement facile à reconnaître, qu'il n'y a pas lieu à en faire la reconnaissance sur le terrain. Les cartes à l'échelle de deux verstes à un pouce Anglais de cette partie de la frontière que les topographes Russes ont dressées d'avance et dont la véracité et l'exactitude n'ont pu jamais être mises en doute, éclairent parfaitement MM. les Commissaires pour toute la ligne de Kessa Dagh ; il suffira, par conséquent, que, séance tenante, la Commission y trace et y fixe la frontière. Quelques bornes placés ensuite par les soins des Commissaires Ottoman et Russe près des passes compléteront le travail de la délimitation. Et, si après le départ de M. le Commissaire de la Grande Bretagne, et contrairement à toute prévision, il se présentait quelques difficultés au moment de la pose des bornes dans ces endroits, il sera le premier à accorder les concessions compatibles avec le principe fermulé au Congrès de Berlin de la ligne de partage des eaux entre l'Araxe et le Mourad Sou et leurs affluents, concessions qui, d'après ce principe, peuvent être demandées par son collègue de Turquie.

M. le Général Zelenoy termine en demandant à ses collègues si les officiers adjoints Anglais et Ottomans ont jamais relevé quelque erreur dans les cartes Russes pendant leurs travaux de Karaourgan à l'Araxe, pour avoir pleine confiance au tracé de la ligne du partage des eaux sus indiquée sur la Carte Russe.

M. le Général Hamley répond à cette question, en affirmant l'exactitude constatée par ses officers, des cartes présentées, et la confiance qu'elles lui inspirent.

M. le Colonel Djévad Bey dit aussi que les cartes o t été trouvées bonnes, qu'il en remercie le Gouvernement Impérial de Russie pour les facilités accordées, et qu'il est du même avis que M. le Général Hamley sous ce rapport.

M. le Général Hamley continue et déclare que s'il avait pu être possible de supposer que des difficultés pourraient se présenter sur la ligne de Kessa Dagh et dans les passes, il n'aurait pas proposé à ses collègues de se contenter à fixer la frontière sur la carte; il aurait, au contraire, demandé que la Commission s'y transporte et y fasse la reconnaissance du terrain. Mais ici n'est pas le cas, le partage des eaux montre avec évidence la frontière et toute personne, même celle qui ne serait pas de l'art, ne pourrait se tromper en ces endroits. Au point de vue militaire, les passes ici n'offrent aucune importance, attendu qu'elles sont presque inaccessibles, et pendant la plus grande partie de l'année encombrées de neige.

Dans la Commission de Délimitation de la Bulgarie, dont il a fait partie l'année passée, et où on était obligé par le Traité de Berlin de prendre en considération les avantages militaires des passes pour les laisser à la Turquie, on n'a visité que les passes importantes, et on s'est dispensé des autres, parce que le doute n'était pas possible par la ligne du partage des eaux.

M. le Général Hamley termine ses paroles en donnant lecture des paragraphes contenus dans le Protocole No. 22 de la Commission de Bulgarie relativement à cette question.

M. le Colonel Djévad Bey désirerait que la Commission tout entière aille à Kessa Dagh et visite les passes, afin de ne laisser aucun point obscur ou peu défini dans la délimitation; mais se déférant à l'avis conforme exprimé par M. le Président et par M. le Général Zelenoy, il n'insiste pas sur ce sujet.

Après une échange de désirs réciproques entre MM. les Commissaires de Russie et de Turquie de voir l'affaire de la frontière menée à bonne fin par eux au contentement des deux Gouvernements limitrophes, et l'installation et le maintien de bons rapports de voisinage sur la frontière, *M. le Président* prend la parole, résume le débat, constate l'accord intervenu, et en rendant justice à l'esprit conciliant qui anime ses honorables collègues, il les remercie d'avoir bien voulu accepter la première partie de sa proposition. Il invite enfin ses collègues de porter la discussion sur la deuxième partie, c'est-à-dire sur la procédure que l'on doit admettre pour la délimitation de la ligne-frontière depuis le point à l'ouest de Karaourgan jusqu'au Kessa Dagh.

Après une échange de vues, MM. les Commissaires de Russie et de Turquie acceptent également la deuxième proposition de M. le Président, et en conséquence il est décidé que la Commission fixera dans la séance du lendemain la ligne de Karaourgan jusqu'à l'Araxe, et que, une fois ce travail fini, elle se transportera au village de Kara Kilissa pour faire reconnaître le terrain de la ligne-frontière d'au delà de l'Araxe jusqu'au Kessa Dagh par une seule section topographique, composée de MM. les Capitaines de Wolski et Solmatcheff et le Major Ibrahim Bey.

Sur ce la séance est levée à 7 heures 45 minutes.

(Signé) E. B. HAMLEY.
A. ZELENOY.
A. DJÉVAD.

Certifié identique:
(Signé) J. J. LEVERSON.
GABRIEL NORADOUNGHIAN.

Inclosure 3 in No. 28.

Protocole No. 6.—Séance tenue au Haut Medjingert le 5/17 Juillet, 1880.

Étaient présents:

Pour la Grande Bretagne—
M. le Général Sir E. B. Hamley,
M. le Capitaine de Wolski, et
M. le Lieutenant J. J. Leverson.

Pour la Russie—
M. le Général Zelenoy,
M. le Capitaine Zavrieff, et
M. le Capitaine Solmatcheff.

Pour la Turquie—
M. le Colonel Djévad Bey,
M. le Major Ishak Bey,
M. le Major Ibrahim Bey, et
Gabriel Effendi (Noradounghian).

LA séance est ouverte à 10 heures.

Les membres des sections topographiques, désignés dans le précédent Protocole, ayant terminé leurs travaux et fait leurs rapports à leurs Commissaires respectifs, ces derniers se trouvent en mesure d'arrêter définitivement la ligne-frontière entre Karaderniers se trouvent en mesure d'arrêter définitivement la ligne-frontière entre Karaourgan et l'Araxe.

M. le Colonel Djévad Bey présente à la Commission un croquis sur lequel est tracée une ligne-frontière modifiée d'après les rapports de ses adjoints, et il en propose l'acceptation. Il dit que les changements demandés ont le but de préserver aux villageois du Bas Medjingert une partie de leurs terrains, qui leur est absolument nécessaire pour le soutien de la vie. Dépourvus de ces champs ils seraient obligés d'émigrer. Une grande partie d'entre eux se trouve au nord-ouest du Bas Medjingert, l'autre partie vers l'est. Il pense que tous les officiers des sections topographiques sont d'accord pour reconnaître que les terrains qu'il réclame appartiennent véritablement au Bas Medjingert. Comme compensation il offre à la Russie du terrain qui se trouve dans l'angle entre l'Araxe et le Mamasch-Déré. Dans ses demandes, ajoute-t-il, il n'est question ni de stratégie, ni de tactique, mais tout simplement d'humanité.

M. le Général Zelenoy dit que, pour sa part, il préfère de se tenir strictement à la ligne adoptée à Constantinople, excepté quelques toutes petites modifications qui ont été proposées pour que la ligne soit plus naturelle. Il y a des villages Russes, par exemple, celui de Karaourgan, qui se trouvent dans les mêmes conditions que le Bas Medjingert, mais il n'en réclame pas les terrains, parce qu'il trouve qu'en agissant ainsi il consulte mieux les intérêts de son Gouvernement. Il trouve que la ligne adoptée à Constantinople est déjà trop favorable à la Turquie, et le terrain offert maintenant à la Russie en échange est couvert de pierres. Enfin, son objection principale est que pour surveiller efficacement la frontière proposée par son collègue Ottoman il faudrait plus de postes militaires.

M. le Général Hamley appuie la proposition du Colonel Djévad Bey en ce qui concerne les terrains situés au nord-ouest du Bas Medjingert, et observe qu'il opinerait ainsi s'il s'agissait d'un village Russe qui aurait été séparé de ses terrains. Il trouve que le présent est précisément un des cas prévus dans le deuxième Protocole de la Commission, où des écarts de la ligne adoptée à Constantinople sont admis.

M. le Colonel Djévad Bey remarque que le Général Zelenoy serait parfaitement en droit de réclamer les terrains appartenant au village de Karaourgan, et que par le seul fait qu'il n'a pas voulu jouir de ce droit, il ne peut s'empêcher, lui, de demander les terrains appartenant au Bas Medjingert. Il observe que la Commission s'est rendue sur les lieux pour deux buts principaux: celui de reconnaître les propriétés des villages, et de les leur laisser, et celui de choisir et d'adopter les lignes les plus naturelles. Or, sa proposition précisément touche au premier de ces buts, et si l'on était tenu de suivre strictement la ligne tracée à Constantinople il n'y avait pas lieu que la Commission se transportât sur le terrain.

A la suite de quelques observations des Commissaires de la Grande Bretagne et de la Russie, M. le Colonel Djévad Bey abandonne sa demande pour les terrains à l'est du Bas Medjingert, et quant aux champs qui se trouvent au nord-ouest de ce village,

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON

comme le Général Zelenoy insiste toujours sur les difficultés de surveillance effective de la frontière, il consente à retirer la ligne un peu, afin de laisser à la Russie les crêtes qui dominent la vallée. Il ajoute qu'il n'avait tracé la ligne le long des crêtes que parce qu'il aurait été facile à l'établir sur le terrain, et qu'il sera satisfait s'il obtient seulement la vallée pour les pauvres villageois.

Après quelques réflexions, *M. le Général Zelenoy* dit que s'il accepte la dernière proposition du Colonel Djévad Bey, il demandera, comme compensation, que la ligne-frontière passe par le sommet du Mont Akh-Baba.

M. le Colonel Djévad Bey explique que les terrains demandés par le Commissaire Russe appartiennent au Bas Medjingert, et qu'ils sont en partie couverts de bois. Il ajoute que chaque arbre a aujourd'hui une grande valeur pour la Turquie puisque toute la forêt de Soghanli a été cédée à la Russie, et propose au Général Zelenoy de réclamer comme compensation des terrains pris ailleurs.

M. le Général Zelenoy demande un peu de temps pour considérer la question, ainsi que de l'examiner sur les lieux.

La Commission suspend la séance, et se rend à 11 heures et demie sur une colline près du Haut Medjingert pour examiner le terrain près du Mont Akh-Baba.

A 2 heures 15 minutes la séance est reprise.

Étaient présents :—

Les mêmes qu'à la séance du matin.

M. le Général Zelenoy prend la parole, et dit qu'il consent à laisser à la Turquie la vallée au nord-ouest du Bas Medjingert, dont il était question dans la séance du matin, en gardant pour la Russie les crêtes qui la dominent. Il demande en compensation le terrain près de Karaourgan qui se trouve sur la rive gauche de la Rivière Chan Sou au sud de la ligne-frontière adoptée à Constantinople, et qui appartient, comme il a déjà été observé, à ce village.

Cette proposition est acceptée.

La nouvelle ligne-frontière entre Karaourgan et l'Araxe est ensuite tracée sur une carte Russe, dressée à l'échelle de 1 verste dans 1 pouce Anglais.

La ligne-frontière entre Kassa Dagh et l'ancienne frontière Russo-Turque est également tracée sur une autre carte faite à l'échelle de 2 verstes dans 1 pouce Anglais. Cette dernière carte est signée ensuite par MM. les Commissaires.

M. le Général Zelenoy promet de faire préparer avant la prochaine séance plusieurs copies de ces deux cartes, avec la ligne-frontière tracée sur elles, afin que chaque Commissaire puisse en prendre une pour remettre à son Gouvernement.

MM. le Général Hamley et le Colonel Djévad Bey remercient leur collègue Russe de sa complaisance.

M. le Président dit que conformément à la décision prise dans la séance d'hier, la prochaine séance aura lieu à Kara Kilissa. Il pense que trois jours suffiront pour les travaux de la Section Topographique, et il propose de fixer la réunion à Jeudi, le 21 Juillet / 2 Août.

M. le Général Zelenoy dit que comme il lui faut absolument retourner à Sary Kamysh pour compléter les arrangements concernant la construction des marques de bornage, il estime qu'il ne pourra pas arriver à Kara Kilissa à la date mentionnée par M. le Président. Il ajoute aussi que le Colonel Solmatcheff est d'avis qu'il faudra au moins cinq jours pour les travaux topographiques.

M. le Président accepte le nombre de jours mentionnés par le Général Zelenoy, et propose de remettre la séance au Samedi suivant.

M. le Général Zelenoy consent à se rendre Vendredi soir à Kara Kilissa pour tenir une séance le lendemain, c'est-à-dire le 22 Juillet / 3 Août.

La séance est levée à 6 heures.

(Signé) E. B. HAMLEY.
A. ZELENOY.
A. DJÉVAD.

Certifié identique :
(Signé) J. J. LEVERSON.
GABRIEL NORADOUNGHIAN.

Inclosure 4 in No. 28.

Protocole No. 7.—Séance tenue à Kara Kilissa le 20 Juillet / 1 Août, 1880.

Étaient présents :

Pour la Grande Bretagne—
M. le Général Hamley,
M. le Capitaine de Wolski, et
M. le Lieutenant J. J. Leverson.

Pour la Russie—
M. le Général Zelenoy,
M. le Colonel Koulberg, et
M. le Capitaine Solmatcheff.

Pour la Turquie—
M. le Colonel Djévad Bey,
M. le Major Ibrahim Bey, et
Gabriel Effendi (Noradounghian).

LA séance est ouverte à 2 heures 45 minutes.

M. le Président invite ses collègues de commencer immédiatement la discussion, s'il y a lieu, de la partie de la frontière entre l'Araxe et le Koussé Dagh.

Le travail de la Section Topographique envoyée à la reconnaissance des terrains de cette ligne (voir Protocole No. 6) indiqué par elle sur la carte, c'est-à-dire, la ligne-frontière définitive depuis l'Araxe jusqu'au Koussé Dagh, avec indication des emplacements pour les marques de bornage, est examiné par MM. les Commissaires.

M. le Commissaire de Turquie propose à la Commission d'accepter définitivement la ligne-frontière depuis l'Araxe jusqu'au Koussé Dagh, telle qu'elle a été élaborée d'un commun accord par les membres de la dite Section. Il demande aussi que Tchala hana Kischlak soit laissé à la Turquie, puisque cet emplacement appartient aux habitants du village de Kara Kilissa, et paraît leur être indispensable pour l'hivernement de leurs troupeaux.

M. le Général Zelenoy, après avoir considéré et étudié le travail, donne son consentement à toute la ligne-frontière depuis l'Araxe jusqu'au Koussé Dagh, telle qu'elle a été présentée par la Section. Par rapport au Tchala hana Kischlak, il dit que ce dernier étant loin de la frontière, est laissé à la Russie par la Section, et qu'il regrette par conséquent de ne pouvoir accéder à la demande de M. le Colonel Djévad Bey. Surtout il met en considération que le Kischlak-akh-Médjed, propriété du village Sathan, reste à la Turquie.

M. le Colonel Djévad Bey n'insiste pas sur sa demande par rapport au Kischlak.

M. le Président se déclare très-satisfait de l'accord intervenu entre ses collègues, et dit que pour sa part comme Commissaire de la Grande Bretagne il accepte de même la ligne adoptée par eux. Il annonce que le travail de la délimitation de toute la frontière entre la Russie et la Turquie depuis Karaourgan jusqu'à l'ancienne frontière de la Russie, qui était la tâche de cette Commission, vient de recevoir sa solution définitive. Il invite ensuite le Secrétariat de préparer l'Acte Final détaillant la frontière, et les Protocoles, en trois exemplaires pour être lus, adoptés, et signés dans la prochaine séance de la Commission. Il espère que les cartes de la frontière que servent d'Annexe à l'Acte seront prêtes par les soins de MM. les Capitaines Zavrieff et Solmatcheff, Adjoints de M. le Commissaire de Russie.

Le Protocole No. 6 est ensuite lu et signé par MM. les Commissaires.

La séance est levée à 4 heures 45 minutes.

(Signé) E. B. HAMLEY
A. ZELENOY.
A. DJÉVAD.

Certifié identique :
(Signé) J. J. LEVERSON.
GABRIEL NORADOUNGHIAN.

Inclosure 5 in No. 28.

Protocole No. 8.—*Séance tenue à Karakilissa le* $\frac{30 \text{ Juillet}}{11 \text{ Août}}$, 1880.

Étaient présents:

Pour la Grande Bretagne—
M. le Général Sir E. B. Hamley,
M. le Capitaine de Wolski, et
M. le Lieutenant J. J. Leverson.

Pour la Russie—
M. le Général Zelenoy,
M. le Colonel Koutberg,
M. le Capitaine Zavrieff, et
M. le Capitaine Solmatcheff.

Pour la Turquie—
M. le Colonel Djévad Bey,
M. le Major Ishak Bey,
M. le Major Ibrahim Bey, et
Gabriel Effendi (Noradounghian).

LA séance est ouverte à 11 heures.

Les Protocoles des séances Nos. 5, 6, et 7 sont vus par MM. les Commissaires et signés.

M. le Président invite ensuite la Commission à vouloir procéder aussi à la signature des trois expéditions de l'Acte Final détaillant la frontière depuis Karaourgan jusqu'à l'ancienne frontière de la Russie et des cartes annexées.

MM. les Commissaires apposent leur signature et sceau sur chacun de ces documents.

M. le Président remet ensuite à chacun des Commissaires l'exemplaire de l'Acte, des cartes, et des Protocoles qui lui est destiné.

Les noms de villages, ruisseaux, monts, et sommets, &c., étant pris textuellement sur les cartes Russes annexées à l'Acte, la Commission a cru utile de faire dresser une liste de ces noms, avec leur prononciation en Turc, et l'orthographe.

Cette liste est annexée au présent Protocole.

M. le Colonel Djévad Bey prenant ensuite la parole adresse des remercîments chaleureux à M. le Général Hamley, qui, en sa qualité de Président de la Commission, n'a épargné aucun effort pour la marche bonne et active des travaux de la Commission, et qui, avec un esprit indépendant et éclairé, a su si bien concilier les intérêts des Gouvernements Russe et Ottoman sur cette frontière.

M. le Général Zelenoy s'associe entièrement aux paroles de M. le Colonel Djévad Bey.

M. le Général Hamley témoigne sa reconnaissance envers ses collègues pour l'aide et l'assistance qu'il a toujours trouvés auprès d'eux en sa Présidence. "En prenant congé de vous," dit-il, "j'emporte avec moi le meilleur souvenir de vous, de vos bons sentiments et procédés courtois à mon égard, ainsi que de vos cordiales relations," et s'adressant ensuite particulièrement à M. le Général Zelenoy, le remercie ainsi que les officiers adjoints qui ont bien voulu préparer avec un soin digne de mention les cartes et les travaux topographiques de la Commission, travaux qui seront appréciés, nul doute, par les Gouvernements.

M. le Général Zelenoy propose en retour de voter des remercîments aux officiers adjoints Anglais et Ottomans qui ont coopéré à l'œuvre de la délimitation. Il remercie spécialement, comme Commissaire de Russie, MM. les Secrétaires Leverson et Gabriel Effendi, pour leurs travaux du Secrétariat, et cela avec d'autant plus de gratitude que la Commission Russe n'était pas représentée dans son sein par un Secrétaire spécial.

M. le Colonel Djévad Bey remercie aussi de son côté MM. les officiers de la Commission Russe.

En conséquence, la Commission vote ses remercîments et fait insérer au présent Protocole.

La Commission est levée à 1 heure.

(Signé) E. B. HAMLEY.
A. ZELENOY.
A. DJÉVAD.

Certifié identique:
(Signé) J. J. LEVERSON.

Annexé au Protocole No. 8.

Liste des Noms se trouvant sur l'Acte Descriptif de la Frontière et des Cartes annexées.

R.=Rivière.
V.=Village.
M.=Montagne.
S.=Sommet.

Textuel.	*Correct.*
R. Karaourgan Sou	Karaourghan Sou.
R. Kimlin Sou..	Kimli Sou.
V. Ziwin	Ziviné.
V. Medjinguert..	Medjingert et Medjinghert.
V. Altun Boulagh	Altoun Boulagh.
S. Aguilliar tapa si	Aghellar tépéssi.
M. Kossah dagh, et Kassadagh ..	Kaussé dagh.
V. Djigueni	Djaghet.
S. Avrat bachino Bachi	Avrat bachiayan Bachi.
Zagaf Karaba goudoud ..	Zigaf harabessi houdoudi.
R. Soulou dara..	Soulou déré.
R. Zareth dara..	Zareth déré.
V. Islansor	Ishnitzor.
R. Mamash dara	Mamatch déré.
R. Karanlik dara	Karanlik déré.
R. Sudlu dara	Séyudlu déré.
V. Akli Metchet	Ak Mesdjid.
S. Okuz ouschouran taschi ..	Eukuz outchouran tachi.
S. Yatagan baschi	Yataghino bachi.
V. Sagtan (Sathan)	Sitahan (Sagatan).
R. Katchan dara	Katchan déré.
S. Memoi tapa	Memoy tépé.
V. Gozan	Kozan.
S. Gül tapa	Gül tépé.
V. Aiger Bongor	Eyher bonghour.
V. Kalé Maidane	Kellé Meidani.
S. Djirid tapa	Djirid tépé.
R. Dali kaya deressi	Deli kaya diressi.
R. Kaplan dara..	Kaplan tachi déré.

Inclosure 6 in No. 28.

Acte fixant la Frontière en Asie, entre la Russie et la Turquie, depuis Karaourgan jusqu'à l'Ancienne frontière de la Russie d'après le Traité de Berlin de 1878.

LE Congrès de Berlin a stipulé dans l'Article LVIII du Traité conclu le 13 Juillet, 1878, que "d'un point à l'ouest de Karaourgan la frontière se dirige sur Medjingert, continue en ligne directe vers le sommet de la Montagne Kassadagh et longe la ligne de partage des eaux entre les affluents de l'Araxe au nord, et ceux du Mourad Su au sud, jusqu'à l'ancienne frontière de la Russie."

Et vu le Protocole No. 18 du Congrès de Berlin, où il a été proposé et adopté de remettre "le tracé plus précis de la ligne de l'Alachkerd à une Commission Militaire, composé d'un officier Russe, d'un officier Ottoman, et d'un officier Anglais."

Leurs Majestés la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, Impératrice des Indes, l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, et le Sultan, Empereur des Ottomans, ont à cet effet nommé pour leurs Commissaires, savoir:—

Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de la Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande, Impératrice des Indes, Sir Edward Bruce Hamley, Général-Major;

Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, Alexandre Zelenoy, Général-Major d'Etat-Major;

Sa Majesté le Sultan, Empereur des Ottomans, Ahmed Djévad Bey, Colonel d'Etat-Major:

Lesquels, munis de leurs pouvoirs et instructions, se sont réunis en Commission à Kara Kilissa ce jour d'hui.

Après la reconnaissance de la frontière et des localités pouvant donner lieu à discussion ;

Ont fixé la frontière entre la Russie et la Turquie depuis Karaourghan jusqu'à l'ancienne frontière de la Russie, dans les conditions ci-après :—

Article Ier. La frontière part d'un point à l'ouest près du village de Karaourghan, désigné sur la carte par la lettre A et le Point No. 0, à 400 sagènes du méridien 59° 56′ 40″, et suivant une direction au sud-est elle gagne le petit sommet désigné sur la carte par le point No. I. De là elle se prolonge dans la même direction, passe par les sommets de deux monticules, et descend jusqu'au Karaourghan-Sou, qu'elle atteint au point de jonction de cette rivière avec le Kimlin-Sou. Elle longe le thalweg du Karaourghan-Sou en aval sur une distance à peu près de 200 sagènes, puis elle tourne à gauche, traverse la grande route entre Karaourghan et Ziwin au Point No. II, et remonte le cours du ruisseau, qui coule du sud-est au nord-ouest, et qui se jette dans le Karaourghan-Sou tout près du dit Point No. II, jusqu'au point où la route entre Karaourghan et Medjinguert le traverse, puis elle tourne au sud et monte par un petit ravin jusqu'à un col, marqué par le Point No. I, où elle rejoint de nouveau cette même route. Ce point est situé au nord-nord-ouest, et à 400 sagènes à peu près des ruines du village d'Altun-Boulagh.

La ligne-frontière se dirige ensuite vers le nord-est et passe par les crêtes de deux collines au sommet d'un troisième, désigné par le No. 2. Elle se redresse après vers le sud-est, et passant en ligne directe à travers deux collines, descend à un col, et tourne au sud-sud-est pour monter au sommet désigné par le Point No. III, qui se trouve à une distance de 200 sagènes environ à l'ouest du sommet d'Aguillar-tapa-si. De là elle passe en ligne directe au sommet d'Aguillar-tapa-si, se dirige vers le nord-est, et descend jusqu'à un petit monticule, tourne ensuite vers le nord, et se dirige en ligne directe vers un saillant. Elle contourne ce saillant (Point No. 3), qui est laissé à la Russie, tourne vers l'est, et passant en lignes directes par un sommet gagne un second sommet (Point No. 4). De là elle tourne vers le sud, et contourne au pied des pentes roides des montagnes Dévé Boinou, en laissant d'un côté ces montagnes à la Russie, et, de l'autre, les ruines du village de Djagnoni à la Turquie.

La frontière, passant ensuite par deux monticules, atteint le sommet désigné par le No. 5, puis se dirige presque en ligne directe vers l'est en rasant la crête des pentes roides de Kara-Tachlnic-Baehi, traverse un ravin, et gagne la crête des pentes roides d'Avrat-Bachine-Baehi au Point No. IV, en traversant auparavant le ravin dont la tête a son point de départ au village de Haut Medjinguert. Le Point No. IV se trouve sur une route servant les villages de Bas et de Haut Medjinguert, dont le premier est laissé à la Turquie, et le second (le Haut Medjinguert) à la Russie. De là elle longe les crêtes de ces dernières pentes roides, traverse en ligne directe un grand ravin qui va du nord-est au sud-ouest, pour atteindre le sommet, Point No. V, qui se trouve au nord-nord-est du Mont Akh-Baba, suit vers le sud-est la crête d'un contrefort à travers le Zagaf Kharaba-goudoud pour arriver à un monticule (Point No. 6), qui domine le vallon Pozson-gourdi, passe vers le sud en ligne directe à un petit sommet (Point No. 7), qui se trouve entre le vallon Pozson-gourdi et le Soulou-dara, se prolonge dans la même direction, et descend jusqu'à ce dernier ruisseau, suit son cours en aval, puis tourne encore vers le sud, et monte jusqu'à un sommet, Point D et No. 8, elle se prolonge après en ligne directe, et atteint le sommet No. VI. De là elle tourne vers l'est, et gagne un autre petit sommet, puis se dirige au sud-est en ligne directe jusqu'à un point (No. 9) sur la crête d'une falaise située dans l'angle formé par deux ravins, à la tête de l'un desquels est situé le village de Haut Islamsor, tandis que l'autre porte le nom de Zinrette-dara, en sorte que le village Haut Islamsor est laissé à la Russie et le Bas Islamsor à la Turquie. Du Point No. 9 la ligne se dirige vers le sud-est, et passe en ligne directe à travers les Points Nos. 10 et 11 jusqu'au Point No. VII, qui se trouve sur la crête des hauteurs de la rive droite de Mamash-Dara, et à une distance de 800 sagènes au sud d'un grand tombeau blanc tout près des ruines du village Kischlak Mamash. Elle se prolonge dans la même direction jusqu'au Mamash-dara, tourne à droite, c'est-à-dire vers le sud, et suit le cours de ce ruisseau en aval jusqu'à son point de jonction avec l'Araxe (Point G, No. VIII), puis elle descend le thalweg de ce dernier fleuve jusqu'au point H, qui se trouve dans un coude du fleuve.

Au point H la ligne-frontière quitte l'Araxe, monte sur une petite éminence sur la rive droite, désignée par le point No. IX, se prolonge vers le sud, et puis suit la crête du contrefort qui est la ligne de partage des eaux entre la Karanlik-dara et le Sudlu-dara, jusqu'au sommet du mont Taschli tépé (Point No. 12), tourne vers le

sud-est en laissant les ruines du village Akh Metchet à la Turquie, et passe dans cette direction, le sud-est, par une ligne de crêtes, et atteint la lettre I et le point No. X, qui est situé sur la crête des Montagnes Tatlu-guni-bachi.

En suivant ensuite la crête de ces montagnes vers l'est, elle passe par Sabéine-tarlassenine-bachi (Point No. 13) et Bouyouk-gunei-baschininé-yanenda-ki-tépé (Point No. 14), et arrive au point lettre J et No. XI, qui se trouve sur cette crête à 300 sagènes au sud-ouest de la crête sud-ouest rocheuse du sommet Okäz-outschouman-tasehi, descend après au sud-est par la mi-côte du plateau Yatagan-baschi jusqu'à la route (Point No. 15) allant du village de Sagtan au Kischlak-dégoun-Hassan, suit cette route jusqu'à 300 sagènes, et passe par une ligne directe orientée du nord-est au sud-ouest jusqu'à la grande route de Kara Kilissa à Bashkeui (Point No. XII).

Là la frontière va en ligne directe en laissant le village de Kara Kilissa à la Turquie et celui de Sagtan à la Russie, jusqu'à un point (No. 16) sur la grande route qui mène du village de Sagtan à celui d'Alijakrak. Ce point est à 750 sagènes au sud-ouest de Sagtan.

Ensuite, elle continue la ligne et monte le cours du Katchan-dara jusqu'à sa source, puis, toujours en ligne directe, monte au sommet de Memoi-tapa (Point No. XIII et lettre M), puis elle suit la ligne des crêtes à l'est et gagne le sommet Akh-pounar (No. 17). Là elle tourne vers le sud-sud-est et passe par une série de petites crêtes et cols jusqu'à un point (No. 18) se trouvant sur la route entre les villages de Gozan du côté de la Russie, et celui de Magamdjik du côté de la Turquie. Ce point se trouve sur un col à 50 sagènes au nord du Gül-tapa. Elle suit cette route pour une distance de 190 sagènes, puis descend vers le sud-est dans un ravin, et remonte au point No. XIV, qui se trouve sur la route entre les villages d'Aiger-Bougor et Gozan, à une distance de 525 sagènes à l'ouest du sommet du monticule qui domine immédiatement au sud-ouest le village de Gozan, traverse la plaine en séparant les terrains du village d'Aiger-Bougor, qui est laissé à la Turquie de ceux de Gozan, qui est à la Russie, et descend en ligne directe jusqu'au Kamardja-sou (Point No. 19), suit le cours de cette rivière en aval pour une distance de 120 sagènes à peu près, jusqu'à la ruine Kele-maidane, remonte jusqu'à la crête Tchik-kaha (Point No. 20), et passant par un sommet, gagne celui de Djirid-tapa (Point No. XV) tourne à l'est, descend la crête d'un contrefort qui contourne presque en demi cercle, et passe ensuite par le Point No. 21, qui se trouve sur la route du village d'Orta-Kala à celui d'Aiger-Bougor, descend le lit desséché d'un ruisseau jusqu'à son point de jonction avec Orta-Kala-sou (lettre Q, Point No. XVI).

Elle monte ensuite en amont le cours de ce ruisseau en laissant le village de Tchermali à la Turquie ainsi que les ruines d'un village à la Russie, jusqu'à sa jonction avec les ruisseaux Dali-kaya-déressi et Kaplan-dara. Elle monte un contrefort entre ces deux derniers ruisseaux jusqu'à un sommet (Point No. 22), tourne ensuite vers le sud et atteint le sommet, lettre S, et Point No. XVII, qui se trouve sur la grande chaîne de partage des eaux entre les affluents de l'Araxe d'un côté, et ceux du Mourad Sou de l'autre. Le Point S et No. XVII est le point final de la ligne-frontière de Karaourghan au Kessah-dagh.

A partir du point S la frontière suit la ligne du partage des eaux entre l'Araxe et ses affluents, et le Mourad Sou et ses affluents dans une direction générale à l'est, et en passant selon la carte du bureau topographique Russe (portant le No. II) faite à l'échelle de 1/420 000 au sud du sommet du Mont Dali-Kaia, par le sommet où prennent leurs sources les ruisseaux Zeïdé et Ava Kouri, par les sommets du Mont Boz-dagh, du Mont Kouchguell, par le sommet du Mont Tchouklour-tchan aux sommets des Monts Ketchedji et Tchamtcha-dagh et jusqu'au sommet du Mont Merméré, aboutissant au sommet du Mont Tendourek, où la nouvelle frontière de la Russie et de la Turquie se rattache à l'ancienne frontière, et qui sert aussi comme point de limite à ces deux Etats limitrophes d'après le Traité de Berlin.

Sur tout ce parcours, depuis le point S jusqu'à Tendourek, la frontière actuelle traverse les passes en allant de l'ouest à l'est, (1) de Khopouss, (2) de Kughisman, (3) de Tendourek, où des points de bornage doivent être placés par les soins de MM. les Commissaires de Russie et de Turquie, et porteront les Nos. XVIII, XIX, et XX.

Art. II. La ligne-frontière entre la Russie et la Turquie depuis le village de Karaourghan jusqu'à la montagne Kessah-Dagh, est rapportée avec tous ces détails sur la carte Russe du Dépôt Topographique du Caucase au $\frac{1}{42000}$ (Carte No. I), et depuis la Montagne Kessah-Dagh jusqu'à l'ancienne frontière de la Russie sur la carte

Russe du même dépôt au $\frac{1}{84000}$ (Carte No. II). Ces cartes servent comme documents explicatifs du texte, et comme Annexes à l'Acte présent.

Toutes les distances indiquées dans l'Article précédent sont mesurées sur les dites cartes en ligne droite et en projection horizontale.

Art. III. Il appartiendra aux deux parties intéressées de prendre d'un commun accord telles mesures qu'elles croiront utiles pour établir des marques de bornage sur la frontière, conformément au tracé arrêté par la Commission.

MM. les Commissaires de Russie et de Turquie étant tombés d'accord sur les points propres à l'érection des marques de bornage sur toute la ligne-frontière, ces points se trouvent indiqués sur les deux cartes indiquées à l'Article II, les points des grandes bornes par les numéros Romains, et les points des petites bornes par les numéros Arabes. Les lettres initiales se trouvant sur ces deux cartes annexées représentent les points de repère de la frontière provisoire, adoptée par la Commission à Constantinople, et qui se trouve détaillée dans le deuxième Protocole, frontière définitivement modifiée et établie par le présent Acte.

Art. IV. Le présent Acte contenant quatre Articles, et établi avec les cartes indiquées à l'Article II en trois expéditions reconnues identiques, une pour chaque Puissance représentée dans la Commission de Délimitation, a été signé par tous les Commissaires, en vertu de leurs pouvoirs et instructions.

Fait à Kara Kilissa (Passin), le treizième jour de Juillet / vieux style / dix-huit jour d'Août, mil huit cent quatre-vingt.

(Signé) E. B. HAMLEY. (L.S.)
A. ZELENOY. (L.S.)
A. DJÉVAD. (L.S.)

No. 29.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received September 7.)

(No. 41.)
My Lord, *Therapia, August* 31, 1880.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the original Protocol of the séance held at the Seraskierate on the 17th May for the fixing of the point west of Karaourgan, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch No. 21 of the 18th May.

The Russian map, on the scale of $\frac{1}{42000}$ (1 verst to the inch), referred to in the Protocol, accompanies it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

Inclosure in No. 29.

Protocol of Sitting for the Fixing of Point West of Karaourgan.

Séance tenue au Séraskiérat à Stamboul le $\frac{5}{17}$ *Mai*, 1880.

Étaient présents :

Pour la Grande Bretagne—
Le Major-Général Hamley, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
Le Capitaine de Wolski, et
Le Lieutenant J. J. Leverson.

Pour la Russie—
Le Général Major Stebnitzky, et
L'Assesseur de Collège Emélianoff.

Pour la Turquie—
Le Colonel d'Etat-Major Chélab Bey, et
Krikor Effendi.

LES Commissaires Russe et Ottoman de la première Commission de Délimitation se sont réunis pour arrêter définitivement le point à l'ouest de Karaourgan formant le point final de leurs travaux, et le point de départ pour les travaux de la seconde Commission, auxquels, conformément au Traité de Berlin, doit aussi prendre part le Commissaire Britannique.

Ce point ayant été arrêté et présenté au Commissaire Britannique, le Général Hamley l'a accepté comme étant d'accord avec le Traité de Berlin.

Ce point est indiqué sur la carte faite sur l'échelle de 1 verste dans 1 pouce Anglais, et se trouve à l'ouest de Karaourgan à 400 sagènes du méridien 59° 56′ 40″.

En foi de quoi le présent Protocole a été signé par les Commissaires des trois Puissances intéressées.

(Signé) E. B. HAMLEY.
J. STEBNITZKY.
Le Colonel de l'Etat-Major, CHEHAB.

Le Secrétaire :
(Signé) J. J. LEVERSON.
EMÉLIANOFF.
KRIKOR.

No. 30.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley's No. 42.

No. 31.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received September 7.)

(No. 43.)
My Lord, *Therapia, August* 31, 1880.

I HAVE the honour to say that, being on the point of finishing the business of the Asiatic Boundary Commission, I should very much wish to be allowed to offer, through your Lordship, my sincere thanks to Lord Dufferin for the valuable and important assistance he has rendered to me throughout its course. On entering upon it there appeared so many difficulties in the way of its completion that I hardly ventured to expect them to be so completely obviated as they have been, and I desire extremely to express to Lord Dufferin my sense of great obligation for the powerful aid he has afforded to me in effecting this result.

I should be further greatly obliged to him, and to your Lordship, if he might be authorized to convey to the Imperial Government of St. Petersburgh my deep sense of the courtesy and consideration which it has bestowed on me throughout the proceedings.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 32.

Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley.

(No. 23.) *Foreign Office, September* 17, 1880.

Sir,

I HAVE received your despatch No. 39 of the 11th ultimo describing the proceedings of the Asiatic Boundary Commission since its arrival on the frontier, and your communications with General Zelenoy, the Russian Commissioner; and I have the satisfaction of acquainting you that the course which you have pursued, and which has had the effect of bringing to an early and satisfactory conclusion the labours of the Commission has the entire approval of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 33.

Earl Granville to Mr. Goschen.

(No. 510.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, September 24, 1880.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch from Major-General Sir E. Hamley,* forwarding a Protocol, with map to accompany it, which he has drawn up with the Russian Commissioner, General Zelenoy, defining the Khotour line of frontier in accordance with the intention of the former mixed Anglo-Russian Commission; and I have to request your Excellency to arrange with your Russian colleague to make a joint communication to the Porte recommending the adoption of the line laid down by General Sir E. Hamley and General Zelenoy, in accordance with the terms of the LXth Article of the Treaty of Berlin.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 34.

Earl Granville to Mr. Plunkett.

(No. 181.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, September 21, 1880.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 465 of the 15th instant, I transmit to you a copy of a further despatch from Major-General Sir E. Hamley with regard to his relations with the Russian Commissioner on the Asiatic Boundary Commission,† and I have to request you to communicate to the Russian Government an extract from General Hamley's despatch, beginning at the passage marked, and to express the feeling of satisfaction entertained by Her Majesty's Government at the friendly conduct of General Zelenoy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 35.

Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley.

(No. 24.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, September 24, 1880.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 27th July, inclosing the Protocol drawn up by yourself and the Russian Commissioner, General Zelenoy, to define the Khotour frontier line in accordance with the intention of the former mixed Anglo-Russian Commission. The copies of the map to accompany the Protocol have also reached me, and I will transmit these documents to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, and request his Excellency to communicate the map with a copy of the Protocol to the Porte, and recommend the acceptance of the line laid down in it.

I have the satisfaction of conveying to you the approval of Her Majesty's Government of your conduct of the negotiations on this question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 36.

Major-General Sir E. Hamley to Earl Granville.—(Received September 27.)

My Lord,

September 27, 1880.

I HAVE the honour to inform you of the arrival of myself, Captain de Walski, and Lieutenant Leverson in London.

I have much pleasure in saying that that part of the work of the Asiatic Boundary Commission which it was their duty to perform was done in a very satisfactory manner. Both these officers are highly qualified topographers, and Lieutenant Leverson was very efficient in the business of the Secretariat. They also executed some work in Armenia for the Intelligence Department, which I trust may be found valuable.

* No. 37. † No. 31.

They will require a few days for the completion of the accounts of the Commission, and I trust that authority may be given for the continuance of the Foreign Office rate of pay to the 28th September for Lieutenant Leverson and the 1st October for Captain de Walski.

I have before mentioned to your Lordship that Captain Everett, Vice-Consul at Erzeroum, who was a member of my topographical party on the Bulgarian frontier last year, and to whom Major Trotter kindly gave permission to accompany me this year from Erzeroum to the Armenian frontier, was of great service to me, especially in rapidly and ably completing the maps necessary for the Khotour question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. B. HAMLEY.

No. 37.

Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville.—(Received October 11.)

(No. 439.)
My Lord,

St. Petersburgh, October 4, 1880.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of the note which, in pursuance of the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch No. 482 of the 21st ultimo, I addressed to Baron Jomini, expressing to his Excellency the thanks of Her Majesty's Government and of Major-General Hamley for the courtesy and cordiality shown to the British member of the Asiatic Delimitation Commission by his colleague, General Zelenoy, as well as by all the Russian officials with whom he came in contact.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Inclosure in No. 37.

Mr. Plunkett to Baron Jomini.

St. Petersburgh, October 4, 1880.

M. le Baron,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that, in a despatch addressed to Earl Granville, dated the 31st August, Major-General Hamley, the British Commissioner on the Asiatic Boundary Commission, draws his Lordship's attention to the cordial disposition shown to him by his Russian colleague, General Zelenoy, and states that his Excellency took much trouble in order to facilitate General Hamley's journey to Tiflis.

In accordance with instructions which I have received, I have the honour to express to your Lordship the feeling of satisfaction entertained by Her Majesty's Government at the friendly conduct of General Zelenoy towards the British Commissioner.

General Hamley has also expressed a wish that his best thanks may be conveyed to the Imperial Government for the courtesy and assistance which the Russian authorities have bestowed on him throughout the proceedings of the Commission, and in making this communication to your Excellency, I am instructed to express the thanks of Her Majesty's Government to that of the Emperor for the consideration so cordially shown to General Hamley by the Imperial authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 38.

Earl Granville to Major-General Sir E. Hamley.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 11, 1880.

I HAVE received your communication of the 27th ultimo, reporting the arrival of yourself, Captain de Walski, and Lieutenant Leverson in London.

I have much pleasure in learning from you the very satisfactory manner in which the above-mentioned officers have discharged the duties allotted to them in connection with the Asiatic Boundary Commission, and under the circumstances mentioned in your

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

despatch, I accede to your request that Captain de Wolski should continue in receipt of his Foreign Office rate of pay up to the 1st October, and Lieutenant Leverson of his up to the 28th September last.

I have further to express to you my appreciation of the services rendered to the Commission by Captain Everett, Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Erzeroum.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 39.

Sir L. Simmons to Lord Tenterden.—(Received October 18.)

My Lord, 36, *Cornwall Gardens, October* 18, 1880.

IN returning the documents which were transmitted to me in your two letters of the 20th September for such observations as I might have to offer thereon,* I have to request that you will inform Earl Granville that, having carefully perused the Protocols and examined the final Act of the Boundary Commission, and the maps Nos. 1 and 2 which accompanied it,† I find that the boundary, as described therein between Turkey and Russia, from the point to the west of and near the village of Karaourgan, until it joins the former boundary of the two Empires at Mount Tandourek, is in substantial conformity with that described in the last paragraph of the LVIIIth Article of the Treaty of Berlin, and am of opinion it may be accepted as a fair interpretation of the intentions of the Signatory Powers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. A. SIMMONS.

No. 40.

Mr. Goschen to Earl Granville.—(Received November 16.)

(No. 537.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, November* 6, 1880.

IN reply to your Lordship's despatch No. 510 of the 24th September last, I have the honour to state that I have twice inquired of M. Novikow whether he had received his instructions from his Government relative to the joint communication to be made to the Porte, recommending the adoption of the Khotour line of frontier as laid down by the British and Russian Commissioners, in accordance with the terms of the LXth Article of the Treaty of Berlin.

His Excellency has informed me that these instructions had not yet reached him, but that he hoped soon to be in a position to join me in making the necessary communication to the Ottoman Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE J. GOSCHEN.

No. 41.

Earl Granville to Mr. Plunkett.

(No. 603.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 26, 1880.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch from Mr. Goschen,‡ from which it appears that the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople has not as yet received any instructions with regard to the joint communication to be made to the Porte, recommending the adoption of the Khotour line of frontier as laid down by the British and Russian Commissioners, in accordance with the terms of the LXth Article of the Treaty of Berlin.

I have accordingly to instruct you to request the Russian Government to send

* Sir E. Hamley, Nos. 33, 40, and 41.

† The third map referred to in No. 40 as to be attached to Protocol No. 2 was not forwarded to me.—J. L. A. S.

‡ No. 40.

instructions, with as little delay as possible, to M. Novikow, to concert with Mr. Goschen for a joint communication to the Porte in the sense above indicated.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 42.

Earl Granville to Mr. Plunkett.

(No. 616.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 8, 1880.

THE labours of the Commission for tracing the Russo-Turkish Boundary in Asia having now been brought to a successful termination, it appears to Her Majesty's Government that the time has arrived for those Powers who were represented on the Commission to take measures for making a formal announcement to the other Signatory Powers of the complete fulfilment of Article LVIII of the Treaty of Berlin.

It would, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, be sufficient that the three Powers interested should communicate the Protocols, maps, &c., and final Act of the Commission, to the Governments of Austria, France, Germany, and Italy; but, if it is considered necessary that these Governments should record their assent to the conclusions of the Commission, they should be invited to do so by an exchange of notes, as has been the case with regard to the Awards of the other Boundary Commissions appointed under the Treaty.

I have accordingly to request you to take an opportunity of ascertaining the views of the Russian Government on this matter, and whether they would propose that the communication to the Powers should be made separately after agreement, or in a joint note.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 43.

Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville.—(Received December 10.)

(No. 589.)
My Lord, *St. Petersburgh, December* 6, 1880.

IN reply to your Lordship's despatch No. 603 of the 26th ultimo, in which I am directed to request the Russian Government to send the necessary instructions to M. Novikow to concert with Mr. Goschen for a joint communication to the Porte, recommending the adoption of the Khotour line, as laid down by the British and Russian Commissioners, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that M. de Giers has assured me that the necessary instructions shall be sent immediately to M. Novikow by telegraph.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 44.

Mr. Plunkett to Earl Granville.—(Received December 20.)

(No. 607. Confidential.)
My Lord, *St. Petersburgh, December* 15, 1880.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch No. 616 of the 8th instant, I inquired two days ago of M. de Giers whether he did not think the time had arrived for the three Powers who were represented on the Commission for the delimitation of the Russo-Turkish boundary in Asia to take measures for making a formal announcement to the other Signatory Powers of the complete fulfilment of Article LVIII of the Treaty of Berlin, and I said your Lordship would be glad to know whether he would prefer that this communication to the Powers should be made separately after agreement or in a joint note.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE, LONDON F.O. 424

His Excellency at first was somewhat averse to making any communication whatever, and seemed to think it was unnecessary. He still, indeed, appears to have a fear that it might be more advisable not to communicate the Protocols, maps, &c., to the other Powers. He argues that once England, Russia, and Turkey are agreed, and the affair, after all, concerns only them, it might be unwise to lay all the documents before other persons, who might perhaps pick holes in some of the acts of the Commission of Delimitation, or find a fault in some portion or other of the work.

M. de Giers, however, went on to say that he was speaking quite privately and unofficially; this was merely his own idea, and he was prepared to adopt whichever course Her Majesty's Government should prefer. If the choice were left to him, his guiding idea would be to give as little to the other Powers as would be courteous, and to confine the communication to a mere notification that England, Russia, and Turkey had examined the question in compliance with Article LVIII of the Treaty of Berlin, and had come to a satisfactory agreement.

When I saw M. de Giers this afternoon, he again reverted to the subject, and his Excellency repeated that he would do whatever your Lordship thought best in this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 45.

Lord Tenterden to Major-General Sir E. Hamley.

Foreign Office, December 29, 1880.

Sir,

ON the 24th September last, Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople was instructed to arrange with his Russian colleague for making a joint communication to the Porte recommending the adoption of the line of frontier laid down by yourself and General Zelenoy, with the view of carrying out the intention of the former mixed Anglo-Russian Commission with regard to the Khotour district, which line is described in the Protocol which accompanied your despatch of the 27th July.

The Russian Ambassador at the Porte having at length received authority to act, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires was authorized, on the 26th instant, to make the joint communication with M. de Novikow.

Copies of the Protocol and the explanatory map have, as you are aware, been transmitted to Her Majesty's Minister at Tehran, but he was directed not to communicate them to the Persian Government without further instructions, and I am now directed by Earl Granville to request that you will favour him with your opinion as to the advisability of communicating these documents to the Shah's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) TENTERDEN.

No. 46.

Mr. St. John to Earl Granville.—(*Received December* 31.)

(No. 689.) *Constantinople, December* 22, 1880.

My Lord,

WITH reference to Mr. Goschen's despatch to your Lordship No. 537 of the 6th of November last, I have the honour to report that the Russian Ambassador has informed me, through M. Onou, that the Russian Government consents to a joint communication being made to the Porte recommending the adoption of the Khotour line of frontier, as laid down by the British and Russian Commissioners, in accordance with the terms of the LXth Article of the Treaty of Berlin.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. ST. JOHN.

No. 47.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

Foreign Office, January 5, 1881.

(No. 2.)

My Lord,

WITH reference to Mr. Plunkett's despatch No. 607, Confidential, of the 15th ultimo, reporting M. de Giers' language as to the communication to the other Signatory Powers of the Treaty of Berlin of the completion of the delimitation of the Russo-Turkish boundary in Asia, under the LVIIIth Article of the Treaty, I have to request your Excellency to come to an agreement with the Russian Government as to sending an instruction to the British and Russian Representatives at Constantinople to propose to the Porte that a communication, in the sense suggested by M. de Giers, should be made to the Powers, and that a copy of the Final Act of the Boundary Commission should be communicated to them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 48.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(*Received January* 17.)

(No. 10.) *St. Petersburgh, January* 12, 1881.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's No. 3 of the 5th instant, directing me to make inquiries as to a map of the Russo-Persian Boundary recently published by the "Daily Telegraph," I have the honour to inclose a despatch which I have received on the subject from Colonel the Honourable G. Villiers, Military Attaché to this Embassy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 48.

Lieutenant-Colonel Villiers to the Earl of Dufferin.

St. Petersburgh, January 12, 1881.

My Lord,

WITH reference to the Foreign Office despatch No. 3 of the 5th January, 1881, containing a map published by the "Daily Telegraph" showing the supposed boundary between Russia and Persia, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the accredited correspondent of that newspaper in this town disowns all knowledge as to how the map got to London. I think it may be assumed that the map did not come from St. Petersburgh. The correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph" promised that he would at once endeavour to discover the source whence it sprang. The map is so glaringly inaccurate in other places besides the boundary line betwen the two countries that I cannot think that it came from an "authentic" or "official" source.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE VILLIERS.

×

No. 49.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received February 9.)

(No. 41.) *St. Petersburgh, January 21, 1881.*

My Lord,

IN accordance with the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch No. 2 of the 5th instant, I requested M. de Giers to inform me whether the Imperial Government would agree to the suggestion that the Representatives of Great Britain and Russia at Constantinople should propose to the Porte that a communication should be addressed by the three Powers to the other Signatories of the Berlin Treaty to the effect that the English, Russian, and Turkish Commissioners had completed the delimitation of the Russo-Turkish frontier in Asia, in accordance with Article LVIII of the Treaty, and that a copy of the Final Act of the Boundary Commission should at the same time be communicated to each Government.

I have now the honour to inclose copy of a note which I have received from his Excellency, in which he states that the Imperial Government entirely concur with your Lordship's suggestion, and that instructions to act in the above sense will be sent to the Russian Ambassador to the Porte.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 49.

M. de Giers to the Earl of Dufferin.

St. Pétersbourg, le 15 Janvier, 1881.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

PAR une note, en date du $\frac{28 \text{ Décembre, } 1880}{10 \text{ Janvier, } 1881}$, votre Excellence a bien voulu m'informer que le Gouvernement de la Reine se range de l'avis du Cabinet Impérial qu'il serait inutile de communiquer aux Puissances Signataires du Traité de Berlin des Protocoles, cartes, et autres documents relatifs à la délimitation Russo-Turque en Asie, et qu'il suffisait, après achèvement complet de l'œuvre de la délimitation, de notifier aux Puissances que les Commissaires Anglais, Turcs, et Russes ont examiné la question en conformité de l'Article LVIII du dit Traité, et qu'ils sont arrivés à une entente satisfaisante.

En même temps, votre Excellence se porte l'organe d'une suggestion au Cabinet de St. James, qui consisterait à charger les Représentants des deux Puissances à Constantinople de proposer à la Porte qu'une communication dans le sens susindiqué soit faite aux Puissances, et qu'il soit transmis à chacune copie de l'Acte Final de la Commission de Délimitation, et vous exprimez le désir de savoir si ce projet rencontrerait l'approbation du Gouvernement Impérial.

En réponse à cette note je crois devoir vous informer, M. l'Ambassadeur, que le mode d'action suggéré par le Cabinet de St. James est parfaitement conforme aux vues du Cabinet Impérial, et que des instructions dans ce sens vont être adressées à notre Ambassadeur.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) GIERS.

No. 50.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received February 9.)

(No. 43.) *St. Petersburgh, January 31, 1881.*

My Lord,

ON the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 18 of the 12th instant respecting the Khotour Frontier question, I informed M. de Giers that in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government the concurrence of the Porte in the new frontier-line should be obtained before it is officially communicated to the Persian Government.

I have now the honour to inclose copy of a note which I have received from M. de Giers, in which his Excellency states that the Imperial Government entirely concur in this view, and that instructions have been sent to the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople to act in concert with the Queen's Representative in the steps to be taken to obtain this result.

*

M. de Giers adds that, in his opinion, it would be advisable that the notification of the decisions of the Khotour International Commission should be made simultaneously to the Government of the Shah by the Representatives of Great Britain and Russia at Tehran, and his Excellency would wish to be informed whether the suggestion meets the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

Inclosure in No. 50.

M. de Giers to the Earl of Dufferin.

St. Pétersbourg, le 15 Janvier, 1881.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

EN réponse à la note que votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser en date du $\frac{5}{17}$ Janvier par rapport à la question de la délimitation du Khotour, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Cabinet Impérial est également de l'avis qu'avant la communication officielle à la Perse de la décision de la Commission, il serait opportun d'obtenir l'adhésion de la Porte au tracé de la ligne-frontière fixée par la Commission. En conséquence, le Cabinet Impérial charge le Représentant de la Russie à Constantinople de s'associer à la démarche qui sera faite à ces fins auprès de la Porte par son collègue Britannique.

Je crois devoir ajouter que pour la notification à la Perse des décisions de la Commission il serait bon de suivre le même mode de procéder, c'est-à-dire, que cette notification soit faite simultanément au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Schah par les Représentants de la Grande Bretagne et de la Russie à Téhéran.

Je prie votre Excellence de vouloir bien me faire connaître si cette proposition rencontrera l'agrément du Cabinet de St. James.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) GIERS.

No. 51.

Earl Granville to the Earl of Dufferin.

Foreign Office, February 17, 1881.

(No. 72.)

My Lord,

I HAVE received your despatch No. 43 of the 31st ultimo, with regard to the time and manner of communicating to the Persian Government the decision of the Anglo-Russian Commission with respect to the Khotour frontier, and I have to request that you will inform M. de Giers that Her Majesty's Government concur with the Russian Government in considering that such communication by the British and Russian Representatives at Tehran should be simultaneous.

When the adhesion of the Porte to the line of frontier laid down shall have been received, Her Majesty's Minister in Persia will be instructed to concert with his Russian colleague for making the necessary notification to the Shah's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 52.

Earl Granville to Mr. Goschen.

Foreign Office, February 21, 1881.

(No. 17.)

Sir,

I HAVE been in communication with the Russian Government as to the manner in which the Powers who were represented on the Russo-Turkish Boundary Commission should make to the other Signatory Powers of the Treaty of Berlin the formal announcement of the complete fulfilment of the LVIIIth Article of that Treaty.

I inclose copies of despatches, as marked in the margin,* which will show your Excellency that the British and Russian Governments consider that in the case of the Asiatic Boundary it will be sufficient for the three Powers represented on the

* Nos. 42, 44, 47, and 49.

*

Commission to notify to the other Signatories of the Treaty that England, Russia, and Turkey have examined the question, in compliance with the LVIIIth Article of the Treaty, and that they have come to a satisfactory agreement, which is recorded in the Final Act, copy of which should at the same time be communicated to the Powers.

I have accordingly to request that you will arrange with your Russian colleague to propose to the Porte to join the Governments of Great Britain and Russia in making to the other Powers the representations I have described.

Printed copies of the Final Act of the Commission are inclosed herewith.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 53.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received March 7.)

(No. 80.)
My Lord, *St. Petersburgh, March* 1, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 72 of the 17th ultimo, and have, in obedience to the instructions contained therein, informed M. de Giers that Her Majesty's Government concur in the suggestion of the Imperial Cabinet that the notification of the decision of the Khotour Frontier Commission should be made simultaneously to the Persian Government by the Representatives of Her Majesty and of the Emperor at the Court of Tehran.

I have also informed his Excellency that when the adhesion of the Porte to the new frontier line shall have been received, Her Majesty's Minister in Persia will be instructed to concert with his Russian colleague for notifying to the Persian Government the decision of the Commission.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 54.

Mr. Goschen to Earl Granville.—(Received April 27.)

(No. 303.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, April* 20, 1881.

M. DE NOVIKOFF and I attended some days ago at the Porte, and presented to Assim Pasha the *pro-memoriad* of which a copy is herewith inclosed, in which we informed him that our Governments were of opinion that it would be sufficient for the three Powers represented on the Turco-Russian Asiatic Boundary Commission to notify to the other Signatories of the Treaty of Berlin that England, Russia, and Turkey had examined the question, in compliance with the LVIIIth Article of the Treaty, and that they had come to a satisfactory agreement, which is recorded in the Final Act, copy of which should also be communicated to the Powers.

M. de Novikoff having received from his Government instructions similar to those conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch No. 117 of the 21st February, we further expressed the hope that the Porte would join with England and Russia in making this communication to the other Powers.

His Excellency Assim Pasha stated that he would give an answer as soon as it was possible to do so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE J. GOSCHEN.

Inclosure in No. 54.

Pro-memorid.

LES travaux de délimitation de la frontière Turco-Russe ayant été terminés par les Commissaires Anglais, Russes, et Turcs, l'Ambassadeur d'Angleterre a reçu l'ordre de proposer à la Sublime Porte que les Gouvernements d'Angleterre, de Russie, et de Turquie s'arrangent entre eux pour informer les autres Puissances Signataires du Traité de Berlin que l'Angleterre, la Russie, et la Turquie ont étudié la question en conformité de l'Article LVIII du dit Traité, et qu'elles sont tombées d'accord sur un arrangement contenu dans l'Acte Final que l'on communiquerait aussi à ce Gouvernement.

No. 55.

Mr. Goschen to Earl Granville.—(Received May 30.)

(No. 408.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, May* 24, 1881.

I REGRET to observe from your Lordship's telegram No. 342 of the 21st instant, that I have omitted to report to your Lordship that M. Novikoff and I called on the Minister for Foreign Affairs in the beginning of the month of April last, and communicated officially to his Excellency the map drawn up by General Hamley and General Zelenoi for the Delimitation of the Khotour frontier.

In requesting Assim Pasha to inform us of the adhesion of the Sublime Porte, we expressed our conviction that it would be given very shortly, and added, that when the Sublime Porte had given its consent, and only then, we would transmit to him officially, accompanied by a collective note, the copies of the Protocol and of the map of the Anglo-Russian Commission which are intended for the Ottoman Government.

In reply, Assim Pasha thanked us for the communication, but begged us to give him the necessary time for studying the details of the question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE J. GOSCHEN.

No. 56.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 616.)
My Lord, *Therapia, July* 26, 1881.

WITH reference to Mr. Goschen's telegram No. 264 of the 26th May last, the Minister for Foreign Affairs has at last assured me that the Porte would in a few days be ready to sign the note to the other Powers respecting the Turco-Russian Asiatic boundary, to which we have been for some time past requesting its adhesion.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 57.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received December 19.)

(No. 1104.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, December* 13, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to state, in reply to your Lordship's despatch No. 800 of the 2nd instant, that I have been constantly reminding the Porte of the necessity of making the joint communication to the Powers respecting the Russo-Turkish boundary in Asia.

I again recurred to the subject yesterday, and was informed by Assim Pasha that the Mazbata had gone to the Palace, and was only awaiting His Majesty's Iradé, the immediate issue of which the Prime Minister had promised his Excellency again to ask for.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.

No. 58.

The Earl of Dufferin to Earl Granville.—(Received December 26.)

(No. 1124 A.)
My Lord, *Constantinople, December* 19, 1881.

I HAVE the honour to state, in reference to the Russo-Turkish Frontier question, that the Minister for Foreign Affairs has assured me that the matter is to be submitted to the Sultan the day after to-morrow, and that an application will then be made for an Imperial Order directing the joint communication to the Powers to be made.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN.